



STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

2021/22

Hammersmith & Fulham Council

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Independent auditor's report to the members of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion on financial statements

We have audited the financial statements of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2022, which comprise the Movement in Reserves Statement, the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Collection Fund Account, the Housing Revenue Account Income and Expenditure Statement, the Movement on the Housing Revenue Account Statement, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Authority as at 31 March 2022 and of its expenditure and income for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law, as required by the Code of Audit Practice (2020) ("the Code of Audit Practice") approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the Director of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Authority to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the Director of Finance's conclusions, and in accordance with the expectation set out within the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 that the Authority's financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis, we considered the inherent risks associated with the continuation of services provided by the Authority. In doing so we had regard to the guidance provided in Practice Note 10 Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom (Revised 2020) on the application of ISA (UK) 570 Going Concern to public sector entities. We assessed the reasonableness of the basis of preparation used by the Authority and the Authority's disclosures over the going concern period.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Director of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Director of Finance with respect to going concern are described in the 'Responsibilities of the Authority, the Director of Finance and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements' section of this report.

Other information

The Director of Finance is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the financial statements, our auditor's report thereon and our auditor's report on the pension fund financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Other information we are required to report on by exception under the Code of Audit Practice

Under the Code of Audit Practice published by the National Audit Office in April 2020 on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice) we are required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement does not comply with 'delivering good governance in Local Government Framework 2016 Edition' published by CIPFA and SOLACE or is misleading or inconsistent with the information of which we are aware from our audit. We are not required to consider whether the Annual Governance Statement addresses all risks and controls or that risks are satisfactorily addressed by internal controls.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters required by the Code of Audit Practice

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the financial statements and our knowledge of the Authority, the other information published together with the financial statements in the Statement of Accounts for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or;
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters.

Responsibilities of the Authority, the Director of Finance and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements

As explained in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Authority is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the

administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the Director of Finance. The Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Director of Finance determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Director of Finance is responsible for assessing the Authority's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention by government that the services provided by the Authority will no longer be provided.

The Audit Committee is Those Charged with Governance. Those Charged with Governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK).

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Authority and determined that the most significant, which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements, are those related to the reporting frameworks (international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Act 2003, the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended by the Local Government Finance Act 1992) and the Local Government Finance Act 2012.
- We enquired of senior officers and the Audit Committee, concerning the Authority's policies and procedures relating to:
 - the identification, evaluation and compliance with laws and regulations;
 - the detection and response to the risks of fraud; and
 - the establishment of internal controls to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- We enquired of senior officers, internal audit and the Audit Committee whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Authority's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by evaluating officers' incentives and opportunities for manipulation of the financial statements. This included the evaluation of the risks of management override of controls and fraud in income and expenditure recognition. We determined that the principal risks were in relation to:

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- The propensity of external reporting pressures to exert influence on management's approach to the use of large and unusual manual journal entries;
 - potential management bias in determining material accounting estimates which were subject to significant management judgement, a high level of estimation uncertainty and high sensitivity to small changes in assumptions.
- Our audit procedures involved:
 - evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls that the Director of Finance has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
 - journal entry testing, with a focus on entries meeting the risk criteria determined by the audit team;
 - challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates in respect of the valuation of land and buildings, including council dwellings and investment property, and the valuation of the net defined benefit pension liability;
 - assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
 - These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.
 - The engagement team discussed the risk of the Authority's potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations, including the potential for fraud in revenue and expenditure recognition and the significant accounting estimates related to related to land and buildings and defined benefit pensions liability valuations.
 - Our assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's:
 - understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
 - knowledge of the local government sector;
 - understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the Authority including:
 - the provisions of the applicable legislation;
 - guidance issued by CIPFA, LASAAC and SOLACE;
 - the applicable statutory provisions.
 - In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
 - the Authority's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.

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- the Authority's control environment, including the policies and procedures implemented by the Authority to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements – the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Matter on which we are required to report by exception – the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if, in our opinion, we have not been able to satisfy ourselves that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources for the year ended 31 March 2022.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matter except on 27 November 2023 we identified a significant weakness in the Authority's arrangements for financial sustainability and improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness. This was in relation to the Authority's arrangements for managing and maintaining the ongoing financial sustainability of the Housing Revenue Account, and the Authority's arrangements for ensuring that the service performance in provision of housing meets the minimum core service standard. We recommended that:

- the Authority take immediate action to ensure that the Housing Revenue Account is returned to an operating surplus position and to increase the general reserves in the Housing Revenue Account;
- the Authority undertake a comprehensive exercise to improve the quality of stock condition survey data;
- the Authority continue its improvement journey with the operational performance of its housing service to ensure that it is meeting a minimum core service standard.

Responsibilities of the Authority

The Authority is responsible for putting in place proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources, to ensure proper stewardship and governance, and to review regularly the adequacy and effectiveness of these arrangements.

Auditor's responsibilities for the review of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

We are required under Section 20(1)(c) of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 to be satisfied that the Authority has made proper arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. We are not required to consider, nor have we considered, whether all aspects of the Authority's arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources are operating effectively.

We undertake our review in accordance with the Code of Audit Practice, having regard to the guidance issued by the Comptroller and Auditor General in December 2021. This guidance sets out the arrangements that fall within the scope of 'proper arrangements'. When reporting on these arrangements, the Code of Audit Practice requires auditors to structure their commentary on arrangements under three specified reporting criteria:

- Financial sustainability: how the Authority plans and manages its resources to ensure it can continue to deliver its services;
- Governance: how the Authority ensures that it makes informed decisions and properly manages its risks; and
- Improving economy, efficiency and effectiveness: how the Authority uses information about its costs and performance to improve the way it manages and delivers its services.

We document our understanding of the arrangements the Authority has in place for each of these three specified reporting criteria, gathering sufficient evidence to support our risk assessment and commentary in our Auditor's Annual Report. In undertaking our work, we consider whether there is evidence to suggest that there are significant weaknesses in arrangements.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements – Audit certificate

We certify that we have completed the audit of London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham for the year ended 31 March 2022 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 and the Code of Audit Practice.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 [and as set out in paragraph 44 of the Statement of Responsibilities of Auditors and Audited Bodies published by Public Sector Audit Appointments Limited]. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Authority's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signature: *Paul Dossett*

Name Paul Dossett, Key Audit Partner

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor

London

Date: 22 February 2024

CERTIFICATION BY CHAIR OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE

I confirm that these accounts were approved by the Audit Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P Walsh', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Councillor Patrick Walsh

22 February 2024

THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE'S NARRATIVE REPORT

Introduction from the Director of Finance

Hammersmith & Fulham is a dynamic, diverse and exciting place to live and work. Sitting alongside four and a half miles of the River Thames and nestled between one of the world's busiest airports, the City of London and London's West End, the Borough is aiming to be the best place for business in Europe, as well as a thriving hub for the arts, culture, sports and leisure.

Hammersmith & Fulham, like most local authorities, continues to face significant financial challenges. Over the past decade the national public finances have been under pressure and the austerity agenda has triggered unprecedented funding cuts while at the same time demand for our services has increased. The Council has seen an overall reduction of government funding of £57m during the period 2010/11 to 2022/23 - a real terms funding cut of 54%.

The pandemic continued to impact on the Council and residents during 2021/22 with the country also facing an emergent cost of living crisis. These challenges reinforce the importance of finding ever more efficient ways to make our resources go further.

The Council's continued focus on financial resilience, embedded through the medium-term financial strategy and programme to deliver savings has enabled it to mitigate against the financial challenges and manage the financial resources effectively. There was a net underspend of £6.7m on the General Fund (this will be added to overall reserves), the HRA used only £2m from reserves compared to an expected £4.3m and more than 80% of the capital investment was delivered.

The earmarked reserves continue to be strong at £158m (after taking into account temporary timing grant adjustments relating to business rate reliefs for the pandemic).

Looking ahead to 2022/23, the approved budget provides for a council tax freeze and no increase in the adult social care levy. Further measures are included to strengthen the Council's future financial resilience by contributing one-off resources of £2.9m to reserves and general balances. A further one-off contingency of £1.5m has also been set aside to meet potential pandemic funding pressures and a further £0.5m has been added to the unallocated contingency.

Since the 2022/23 budget was set there has been a sharp increase in inflation. This financial challenge combined with other world-wide issues will present major concerns during the next 24 months.

The Council will continue to act prudently to maintain adequate levels of one-off reserves to manage financial risk and to maintain the investment to deliver the Council priorities and complete the Building Homes and Communities Programme and the major Regeneration Schemes including Civic Campus. The Council will continue to deliver services in line with the six values and especially being 'ruthlessly financially efficient'.

Priorities and Performance

The Council has established the following values in its vision:

- Building shared prosperity
- Creating a compassionate council
- Doing things with residents, not to them
- Being ruthlessly financially efficient
- Taking pride in Hammersmith & Fulham
- Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency

The Council is updating the Corporate Plan and Business Objectives and performance is robustly monitored at a corporate, departmental and service level and reported to the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) and Cabinet.

Organisational Overview and External Environment

As a unitary authority Hammersmith & Fulham has responsibility for the delivery of a broad range of services including:

- Adult Social Care
- Children Services
- Collection of Revenues (Council Tax and Business Rates)
- Social and Affordable Housing and Homelessness
- Economic Regeneration and Development
- Welfare Benefits Administration
- Community Services (Libraries, Parks, Leisure Centres)
- Planning and Building Control
- Public Health
- Regulatory Services (Trading Standards, Food Safety, Environment Health, HMOs)

- Highways and Transport
- Waste Management and Recycling

Additional details of our services are available on our website.

Governance

The Council operates the Leader/Cabinet system with 50 councillors in total representing 21 Wards. The Council's governance arrangements are explained in detail in the Annual Governance Statement (AGS) and this is published as part of these financial statements. The Council's Constitution sets out how the Council operates, how decisions are made and the procedures which are followed to ensure that it is efficient, transparent and accountable to local residents. The latest version of the Council's Constitution can be viewed on our website.

Organisational Model

A list of our main service areas and directors – who together comprised the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) - as at the end of the 2021/22 financial year was as follows:

Chief Executive	Kim Smith
Strategic Director of Economy	Jonathan Pickstone
Strategic Director of Environment	Sharon Lea
Director of Social Care	Lisa Redfern
Director of Resources	Rhian Davies
Director of Children's Services	Jacqui McShannon
Director of Finance	Emily Hill

Up to date information concerning the SLT is available here:

<https://www.lbhf.gov.uk/councillors-and-democracy/about-hammersmith-fulham-council/our-services>

People

The council employs 2,271 people in full time and part-time contracts (excluding schools). The workforce generally reflects the diversity of residents across the Borough. The table below sets out a Departmental breakdown of the Council's employees by gender, age, disability and ethnicity.

Gender

Department	Female Employees	Female Employees %	Male Employees	Male Employees %
Social Care	170	68.5%	78	31.5%
Children's Services	319	79.2%	84	20.8%
Finance	81	53.6%	70	46.4%
Resources	116	60.4%	76	39.6%
The Economy	309	47.1%	347	52.9%
The Environment	289	46.5%	332	53.5%
Grand Total	1284	56.5%	987	43.5%

The Council, like other large employers, publishes its gender pay gap information. To see our gender pay results and those of other organisations you can visit: <https://gender-pay-gap.service.gov.uk/>

Age

Age Group	Social Care	Children Services	Finance	Resources	Economy	Environment
<20	-	-	-	-	-	0.3%
20-24	3%	2%	5%	4%	2%	3%
25-29	4%	10%	9%	8%	10%	5%
30-34	7%	15%	13%	7%	10%	6%
35-39	11%	14%	8%	13%	12%	9%
40-44	13%	14%	14%	11%	13%	13%
45-49	14%	11%	9%	12%	10%	11%
50-54	15%	14%	14%	14%	13%	17%
55-59	15%	9%	19%	17%	14%	18%
60-64	17%	9%	9%	13%	13%	15%
>65	2%	1%	1%	2%	4%	3%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Disability

Disability	Social Care	Children Services	Finance	Resources	Economy	Environment
Disabled	6%	6%	7%	6%	7%	5%
Non-disabled	94%	94%	93%	94%	93%	95%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Ethnicity

Ethnicity	Social Care	Children Services	Finance	Resources	Economy	Environment
Asian	4%	6%	11%	14%	7%	12%
Black	31%	23%	21%	23%	22%	26%
Mixed	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%	7%
No data provided	11%	18%	15%	9%	12%	7%
Other	1%	1%	4%	2%	2%	1%
Prefer not to say	2%	1%	3%	2%	13%	1%
White	45%	45%	42%	46%	40%	45%
Grand Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Risks and Opportunities

The Council's risk management framework involves an ongoing process to identify the risks to our policies, aims and objectives and to prioritise them according to likelihood and impact. The Council maintains a comprehensive suite of risk registers which are regularly reviewed by the Audit Committee. This is published as part of the relevant committee papers which can be accessed on our website.

[LBHF Risk Register](#)

The Council's key risks are summarised below:

Highest-Level Risks	Impact and Mitigation
Financial Sustainability	The Council is experiencing increased demand and costs, particularly in Social Care and concern remains that pent-up demand for services will result in additional cost pressures. In addition, there are significant risks of cost increases as a result of inflationary pressures in short and medium term and these will be monitored throughout the year. The Council has a MTFS and the Budget for 2022/23 was approved by Full Council.
High needs budget pressure continues, impacting on provision of services for vulnerable young residents	The Early Intervention offers have launched although some were delayed due to various reasons, including recruitment challenges and school pressures as a result of COVID outbreak responses. The infrastructure has been established to monitor the impact of these services. The SEND Transformation programme is monitored via fortnightly Working Groups and programme updates to the High Needs Block Board which is chaired by the Director of Children's Services and membership includes the Director of Finance (S151 Officer). Progress is monitored at both meetings and a risk register is in place to actively monitor the risks.
Failure to maintain services to residents in the event of IT systems being compromised and affecting service resilience	The Council continues to monitor and mitigate external risks which may affect its IT systems, including attempts to breach our network through cyber-attacks, on-going security patching, the robustness of our supplier chain and overall disaster recovery provision against a backdrop of increasing costs. Digital services held mitigation workshops October-December 2021 with service leads to provide advice and prompt consideration of alternative options actions to take in the event of IT systems being unavailable. This will both inform Digital Services' disaster recovery plans and assist services to update business continuity plans where appropriate. Internal Audit continue to provide assurance in this area.

Highest-Level Risks	Impact and Mitigation
Delivering the Civic Campus Programme in a timely way.	Assurance is now provided through the more strategic Civic Campus Executive Board (CCB), the Civic Campus Design Board and the Civic Campus Working Group (CCWG). The CCB will provide a steer to the operational leads where required. Key programme milestones, workstream progress, budgets and risks and issues continue to be reported to the Executive Board and to SLT Programme meetings.
Spread of infectious disease, particularly affecting vulnerable groups of residents and workforce/ contractors providing front line services	Since the government have lifted restrictions, testing has now stopped. Vaccinations continue to be offered via pop ups and pharmacies. Restrictions have been lifted in all office areas, with staff being advised to stay at home if feeling unwell. All departments are now working through recovery, if not back to BAU. We will however, continue to monitor the data and stand back up response if required.
Commercial, contract management and procurement risks, rules, outcomes, social value, management of spend and contractor performance management.	Work continues in support of the Ruthlessly Financially Efficient Action Plan. Atebios (Cardiff City Council) carried out a Peer review of the Council's operating model for Commissioning and Procurement and recommended that the Procurement function is centralised. Actions are now being taken to centralise the Service. The Corporate Procurement Team are reviewing contract expenditure and sample checks on goods receipting is taking place. The Contracts Assurance Board meets weekly, compliance with governance, legislation, the Council's Social Value Policy and RFE are reviewed

Opportunities

Regarding opportunities, the Council continues to progress and explore a number of regeneration schemes and development schemes. In addition, the Industrial Strategy – **Economic Growth for Everyone** – reflects our ambition to make our borough the best place to do business in Europe and to ensure that everyone benefits. Hammersmith & Fulham is changing rapidly and we're determined to seize the opportunities for everyone. We believe local government has a role in supporting growth. It can bring partners together, regenerate town centres, help with affordable workspaces, teach people the skills they need, use procurement to support local firms and much more. In Hammersmith & Fulham, we want to use the power of local government to create a borough able to compete with the best in the 21st century. The detail of our Industrial Strategy is published online on our website.

The Industrial Strategy will be more important than ever as the effect of the pandemic and the cost-of-living crisis affects jobs, businesses and livelihoods. The Council will continue to work with partners and businesses to lead the way to economic recovery of the borough and as a result, the Industrial Strategy has entered into Upstream, a partnership between the Council and Imperial College London. Upstream's vision is for Hammersmith & Fulham to have an inclusive, thriving ecosystem of ambitious science, tech and creative organisations, with the White City innovation district a global beacon of growth through innovation.

The strategy also includes:

- how we will make it easier for entrepreneurs to start and grow a business, creating more affordable workspaces, exploring business rates cuts for key sectors, and creating a new venture capital fund to support tech and creative businesses
- details of major regeneration and infrastructure schemes, including delivering 10,000 new homes, half of which will be affordable, as well as improvements to rail links and the station at Old Oak Common
- our investment in local skills, with extra support for science and maths teachers and apprenticeships.

The **Building Homes and Communities Programme** sets out clear priorities around delivering 1,500 new affordable homes, including 500 for affordable home ownership and to review all sites including smaller areas to use every available land for housing. The Council also has London Plan commitments to deliver new housing.

The Cabinet approved the Council's **HRA Asset Management Compliance Strategy and Capital Programme** in July 2019. The programme prioritises work to deliver Fire Safety Plus, other health and safety compliance works and other pre-agreed works to ensure the safety and welfare of all residents through investment decisions about the housing stock.

In our part of a busy city, residents deserve a place that is safe, clean and green. We're working hard to be the most environmentally positive borough in London, because the health and wellbeing of our communities is so important.

Some of our key environmental achievements during the last 12 to 18 months are set out below:

- launched "Zipcar Flex", a new flexible car club in the borough in association with Zipcar
- installed the largest concentration of air quality monitors (AQMs) anywhere in Europe.
- introduced a range of new, free cycle training sessions which were launched to help promote bicycle usage in the Borough.
- the Council won the best 'Trees and Water' project at the 2020 London Tree and Woodlands Awards for the installation of new tree pits at the sustainable drainage scheme in Seagrave Road.
- London's first-ever tiny forest was planted in Hammersmith Park, White City. The tiny forest will be a dense, fast-growing woodland consisting of 600 trees and shrubs planted in an area the size of a tennis court. It will part of a future collective of more than 3,000 tiny forests around the world, preserving biodiversity and reconnecting people with nature
- there was further expansion of electric car charging points throughout including the introduction of new rapid charging points in Lillie Road, Rowan Road, and Sussex Place. These were the latest additions to the 345 publicly available charging points within the Borough.

In December 2019, the Council appointed twelve local resident commissioners to form the **Climate and Ecological Emergency Commission**. Between January and December 2020 the Commission conducted extensive research and engagement, within the Council and externally, to produce its findings which were considered by Cabinet in May 2021.

Finance Strategy, Performance and Outlook

Strategy and Resource Allocation

The Council has embedded the **Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS)** within its business planning framework. The MTFS has been the vehicle for allocating resources to the Council's priorities, driving through efficiency savings and monitoring their delivery. It provides the Council with a forum for challenging budget and service proposals, identifying and developing savings and efficiencies and dealing with significant financial risks, in particular the long-term reduction in government funding.

Annually, the Council sets the **Revenue Budget** – this sets out the Council's spending plans on day-to-day expenditure which includes everything from staff salaries, building maintenance and the costs of refuse collection and disposal. It is a legal requirement of the Council to set a balanced budget i.e. expenditure cannot be more than the resources available. In brief, the 2021/22 budgets included:

- Investment of £7.9m to meet the costs of statutory obligations, demographic, service and demand pressures and key resident priorities
- Savings of £6.9m required to balance the budget and off-set cost pressures
- Measures to strengthen the Council's future financial resilience by contributing one-off resources of £1.1m to general balances and setting aside an additional one-off contingency of £1.1m regarding Covid-19 financial pressures

This resulted in a gross budget of £584m (net revenue budget requirement of £124.5m) funded from council tax, the local share of business rates and revenue support grant from government.

The 2021/22 Budget Strategy recognised that the pandemic had heightened the financial risks facing the Council and recommended that the range for the optimal level of general balances be increased to between £19m-£25m. The actual general balances carried forward at the end of 2021/22 were £20.4m.

The Council also approves the **Capital Programme** which captures the spending to purchase or improve the Council's long-term assets (such as buildings and vehicles). The 2021-25 capital programme included:

- A housing and regeneration programme of £373m
- The Civic Campus Programme including refurbishment of Hammersmith Town Hall
- The continuation of the Council's rolling programmes for Disabled Facilities Grants, Planned Building Maintenance, Footways and Carriageways.

Financial Performance

The revenue outturn for 2021/22 shows a year end underspend of £6.7m. At the end of the year, the General Fund Balance stands at £20.4m and earmarked reserves at £161m.

The Statement of Accounts for 2021/22 sets out the Council's spending and funding in line with accounting requirements. The position below explains the same information in the form of the Council's management accounts. The Council's financial position (for example, total usable reserves and final working balance) is the same in both formats. The summary General Fund outturn position is as set out below:

Department	Budget	Actual	Over/ (Under) Spend
	£m	£m	£m
Social Care including Public Health	58.3	58.2	(0.1)
Children's Services	56.7	55.8	(0.9)
The Economy Department	(5.3)	(6.6)	(1.3)
The Environment Department	78.4	78.3	(0.1)
Controlled Parking Account	(25.4)	(28.8)	(3.4)
Finance	2.1	1.5	(0.6)
Resources	9.0	8.9	(0.1)
Centrally Managed Budgets (including unallocated contingency)	17.9	17.6	(0.3)
Gross Operating Expenditure	191.7	184.9	(6.7)
Technical and Financial Accounting Adjustments	8.3	8.3	-
Non-Ring-fenced Revenue Grants and Capital Grants	(44.9)	(44.9)	-
Net Contribution (to)/from Earmarked Reserves	(20.2)	(20.2)	-
Total Net Expenditure	134.9	128.2	(6.7)
Funded by:			
Localised Business Rates	(68.4)	(68.4)	-
Council Tax	(67.6)	(67.6)	-
Total Funding	(136.0)	(136.0)	-
Final Position	(1.1)	(7.8)	(6.7)

Dedicated schools grant (DSG) is paid in support of local authority schools' budgets, being the main source of income for the schools. In common with other London Boroughs, the High Needs Block element has come under increased pressure in supporting children with special educational needs and spend has been significantly higher than the funding provided by central government. The Council holds a cumulative DSG deficit of £11.8m, which in line with statutory accounting requirements is held in an unusable reserve, and this is matched by a usable earmarked reserve of the same amount to ensure that the Council is able to fund this deficit on the expiration of the statutory provisions to hold a negative reserve in 2023/24.

The Statement of Accounts also includes the ring-fenced Housing Revenue Account for the provision of social housing. The closing balance on the Housing Revenue Account was £15.6m with associated Earmarked Reserves of £10.6m. This reflects a budgeted use of reserves during 2021/22. The HRA is facing some significant financial challenges in increasing costs, particularly in housing repairs and to fund capital investment in health and safety. As a result, significant savings will need to be identified in future years to ensure that the HRA is sustainable. Further details for 2021/22 are set out in the HRA Statement of Accounts.

The Council's **Balance Sheet** as at 31 March 2022 is summarised below. The overall balance sheet position is substantially stable.

Summary Balance Sheet	31-Mar-22 £m	31-Mar-21 £m
Long Term Assets	2,127	2,026
Current Assets	388	369
Current Liabilities	(255)	(230)
Net Pension Liabilities	(477)	(658)
Other Long-Term Liabilities	(307)	(302)
Net Assets	1,476	1,205
<i>Represented by:</i>		
Usable Reserves	(282)	(289)
Unusable reserves	(1,194)	(916)
Total Reserves	(1,476)	(1,205)

The breakdown of the usable reserves is set out below:

Summary Usable Reserves	31-Mar-22	31-Mar-21
	£m	£m
General Fund Balance	(20)	(19)
General Fund Earmarked Reserves	(161)	(172)
HRA Balance and Earmarked Reserves	(26)	(30)
Schools Reserves	(10)	(10)
Capital Reserves (Receipts and Grants)	(65)	(58)
Total	(282)	(289)

Capital

In 2021/22, the actual capital expenditure (outturn) totalled £95.1m and the table below summarises capital expenditure by service area:

Department	2021/22	2020/21
	£m	£m
Adult Social Care	1.5	1.6
Children's Services	0.7	0.8
The Environment Department	10.5	7.9
Finance	0.5	0.2
The Economy Department - General Fund Schemes	26.3	26.8
The Economy Department - Housing and Regeneration	16.0	9.2
The Economy Department - Housing Revenue Account	39.6	42.1
Total	95.1	88.6

The 2021/22 capital programme was financed as follows:

Capital Financing	2021/22	2020/21
	£m	£m
Capital Receipts	7.6	3.5
Increase in Capital Finance Requirement (CFR)	43.6	37.8
Capital Grants and Contributions	26.1	20.8
Major Repairs Reserve (MRR)	17.0	26.3
Council and School Reserves	0.1	0.2
General Fund Revenue Account	0.7	-
Total	95.1	88.6

The capital additions during the year included:

- £39.6m investment in the Council's social housing stock and fire safety measures
- £22.7m on the Civic Campus development
- £17.1m on affordable housing schemes
- £10.5m on the borough's highways and infrastructure schemes

Financial Outlook

The Council's 2022/23 budget proposals were approved in February 2022 to support the local recovery from the pandemic and delivery of resident priorities. The ongoing pandemic and health emergency has led to an increase in demand for services whilst the upturn in inflation and resetting of the public finances, at a national level, has placed a further strain on local authorities. The 2022/23 budget was set with the need to strengthen the Council's financial resilience as mitigation against this increased financial risk.

General government grant funding has increased by an estimated £6.9m from 2021/22 to 2022/23. This is well below the increase in the Council's costs due to inflation, demographic pressures and the health pandemic and economic crisis.

The key summary of the 2022/23 revenue budget is as follows:

- Investment of £7.4m was provided to meet the costs of statutory obligations, demographic, service and demand pressures and key resident priorities. Budget provision is also made regarding the ongoing consequences of the pandemic
- Savings of £4.9m were put forward to balance the 2022/23 budget
- The budget proposals included measures to strengthen the Council's future financial resilience by contributing one-off resources of £2.9m to reserves and general balances. In addition, a one-off contingency of £1.5m was set aside regarding pandemic financial pressures
- Overall this produced a net revenue budget requirement of £125.7m funded from council tax, the local share of business rates and revenue support grant from government

The Council faces significant future financial risk with particular uncertainty regarding the impact of the pandemic, future government funding allocations, the sharp upturn in inflation and cost of living crisis, the potential impact of Brexit and impact of the war in Ukraine and increasing demand for services.

The 2022-26 capital programme was also approved in February 2022. The programme for this period totals £577.1m. The gross anticipated spend for 2022/23 is £191.6m, comprising the General Fund (GF) Programme of £113.9m and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Programme of £77.7m.

The General Fund programme includes:

- The Civic Campus Programme/Refurbishment of Hammersmith Town Hall
- Hammersmith Bridge Stabilisation
- The Council's rolling programmes for Planned Building Maintenance and Footways and Carriageways
- The Schools Maintenance Programme.

The Grade II* Listed 134-year-old Hammersmith Bridge (the Bridge) was closed to motor vehicles in April 2019 and to all users in August 2020 on public safety grounds. Following an 11-month closure and extensive investigations by Hammersmith & Fulham engineers and the introduction of a pioneering temperature control scheme, it re-opened to pedestrians, cyclists and river traffic on 17 July 2021. The re-opening, with strict conditions, was recommended by the Board for the Continued Case for the Safe Operation (CCSO). One condition was that for the Bridge to remain open, it must be properly and permanently stabilised as soon as possible.

Following detailed cost-analysis the Council has approved a stabilisation construction project for the Bridge at an estimated value of £8.9m (including indirect costs, preliminaries and contingencies). This work is to be completed expeditiously (anticipated by January 2023) so that users can continue to use the Bridge safely.

In line with government announcements, central government (Department for Transport (DfT)) and Transport for London (TfL) are expected to fund two-thirds of the total project costs and this is expected to be formalised in a proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The Council will fund its share of the stabilisation project costs through borrowing. This funding split is assumed within the capital programme.

The Council is continuing to develop an outline business case for a full strengthening and restoration programme which will see the Bridge re-opened to motor vehicles. This is exploring options to fund the Council's contribution to both stabilisation and strengthening and restoration through a road charge or toll.

The capital programme will be updated in accordance with the decisions made regarding the Bridge.

The Council has approved a 12-year HRA Asset Management Capital Strategy which details the spending priorities for the twelve-year period between 2022/23 and 2033/34 and will be investing almost £728.6m. The aim of the Strategy is to direct capital investment to where it will make the biggest impact on residents' quality of life, health and wellbeing with the following key spend areas:

- Fire Safety
- Structural Safety
- Asset Replacement
- Disabled Adaptations
- Stock Condition Survey findings
- Climate Emergency
- Estate Improvements
- White City Estate
- Charecroft Estate Phase 2
- West Kensington Estate

The 2022-26 HRA capital programme includes additional spend of £188.7m regarding the 12 year strategy and the delivery of the strategy will inform every subsequent annual revision of the capital programme budget.

The medium-term outlook for local authority financing remains extremely challenging and management are not aware of any material uncertainties in relation to the Council's ability to continue as a going concern.

Structure of the Statement of Accounts and Basis of Preparation

The Statement of Accounts sets out the Council's income and expenditure for the financial year 2021/22 and its Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022. This covers the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account, Pension Fund and the Collection Fund. The format of the accounts follows the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the UK 2021/22, which specifies the principles and practices of accounting required to give a "true and fair" view of the financial position, financial performance and cash flows of a local authority. It primarily comprises the Key Financial Statements (including notes to the accounts) and Supplementary Financial Statements (also with notes).

The Statement of Accounts comprises:

Key Financial Statements

The **Movement in Reserves Statement (MiRS)** is a summary of the changes to the Council's reserves during the course of the financial year. The reserves represent the Council's net worth and are analogous to the equity of a private company. Reserves are divided into 'usable' and 'unusable' reserves. Usable reserves can be used to fund expenditure; unusable reserves cannot.

The **Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)** reports all of the Council's gains and losses during the financial year. The CIES is prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the detail will therefore differ from the Council's management accounts and revenue budgets. However, the Council's financial position i.e. the working balance and usable reserves, will be the same.

The **Balance Sheet** is a 'snapshot' of the Council's assets, liabilities and reserves on 31 March 2022. The reserves are always equal to the Council's assets less the Council's liabilities. Assets represent everything owned by the Council and money owed to it. Liabilities are the sums that the Council owes to others.

The **Cash Flow Statement** shows the changes to the Council's cash and 'cash equivalents' during the financial year. Cash equivalents are assets that can be readily converted into cash and have a low likelihood of a change in value. The statement shows cash flows from: 'operating' activities, which are the cash flows from the Council's services; 'investing' activities, which are the cash flows from the Council's capital investment, investments and asset sales; and 'financing' activities, which are primarily the cash flows relating to the Council's borrowings.

Explanatory Notes

The **Notes** provide more detail about the items contained in the key financial statements, the Council's accounting policies and other information that helps interpretation and understanding of the key financial statements and accounts.

Included in the Notes is the **Expenditure and Funding Analysis (EFA)**. This shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Supplementary Financial Statements

The **Housing Revenue Account** shows the income and expenditure relating to the provision of housing and associated services to the council tenants and leaseholders and includes the Statement of Movement on the HRA Fund Balance. This reflects the statutory obligation of the Council to account separately for the cost of its activities as a landlord in the provision of council housing

The **Collection Fund Account** summarises the income and expenditure relating to the collection of council tax and non-domestic rates, including the precept collected on behalf of the Greater London Authority. It sets out the contribution of Hammersmith & Fulham Council taxpayers to the costs of local services and its distribution to the Greater London Authority.

The **Pension Fund Account** sets out a summary of the transactions during the year (Fund Account) and the overall financial position of the pension fund at 31 March 2022 (Net Assets Statement).

The **Annual Governance Statement** is a statement by the Leader of the Council and the Chief Executive on the arrangements and systems for internal control across the Council and the governance arrangements of the Council during the year.

Materiality and Group Accounts

Group Accounts have not been included in the 2021/22 Statement of Accounts on the grounds that they do not have a material effect on the overall statements. Their inclusion does not provide any more usefulness to readers' understanding. The Council's interests which have been considered for the purposes of group accounting are detailed in Note 33 – Interest in Companies. We will continue to assess these interests for inclusion in future group accounts should they become material.

In addition, the Council is the sole trustee of the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust (WSCT). Again, group accounts have not been prepared on the grounds of materiality however Note 36 provides a high-level summary of the balances of the Trust. The Trust's annual report and accounts are considered annually by the WSCT Committee and published here: <http://democracy.lbhf.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=467>. The Trust's accounts are also available via the Charity Commission website.

Accounting Policies

The 2021/22 accounts are compliant with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in that they comply with the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) / Local Authority (Scotland) Accounts Advisory Committee (LASAAC) Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2020 (the Code) which is based on IFRS.

The accounting policies adopted by the Council comply with the Code and are set out in Note 38 to the Statement of Accounts. These are substantially unchanged from 2020/21.

STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

The Council's responsibilities

The Council is required to:

- Make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the administration of those affairs. In this Council, that officer is the Director of Finance.
- Manage its affairs to secure economic, efficient and effective use of resources and safeguard its assets.
- Approve the Statement of Accounts.

Responsibilities of the Director of Finance

The Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Council's Statement of Accounts in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC 2021/22 Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom (the Code).

In preparing this Statement of Accounts, the Director of Finance has:

- selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently
- made judgements and estimates that were reasonable and prudent
- complied with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting.

The Director of Finance has also:

- kept proper accounting records which were up to date
- taken reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

CERTIFICATE OF THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE

I confirm that the Statement of Accounts present a true and fair view of the financial position of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham and the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund as at 31 March 2022 and income and expenditure for the financial year 2021/22.



Sukvinder Kalsi
Director of Finance
Date: 22 February 2024

CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Movement in Reserves Statement

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

Balance Sheet

Cash Flow Statement

Movement in Reserves Statement

This statement shows the movement in the year on the different reserves held by the Council, analysed into 'usable reserves' (i.e. those that can be applied to fund expenditure) and other reserves. The (Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services line shows the true economic cost of providing the Council's services, more details of which are shown in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. These are different from the statutory amounts required to be charged to the General Fund Balance and the Housing Revenue Account for council tax setting and dwellings rent setting purposes. The Net Increase /Decrease before Transfers to Earmarked Reserves line shows the General Fund Balance and Housing Revenue Account Balance before any discretionary transfers to or from earmarked reserves undertaken by the Council.

Notes	General Fund (GF) Balance £000	GF Earmarked Reserves £000	Schools Balance £000	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) £000	HRA Earmarked Reserves £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Major Repairs Reserve £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Reserves £000	Total Usable Reserves £000	Unusable Reserves £000	Total Authority Reserves £000
Balance at 31 March 2020	(19,004)	(60,909)	(10,272)	(24,580)	(9,122)	(25,956)	(10,574)	(8,413)	(878)	(169,708)	(1,053,383)	(1,223,091)
Reporting change to Schools Budget Deficit at 1 April 2020		(19,791)								(19,791)	19,791	-
Restated balance at 1 April 2020	(19,004)	(80,700)	(10,272)	(24,580)	(9,122)	(25,956)	(10,574)	(8,413)	(878)	(189,499)	(1,033,592)	(1,223,091)
Movement in Reserves during 2020/21												
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	(42,608)	-	-	(44,166)	-	-	-	-	-	(86,774)	105,187	18,413
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	3 (48,359)	-	-	47,666	-	(24,136)	10,574	1,414	-	(12,841)	12,841	-
Transfer to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	90,664	(90,833)	169	3,518	(3,518)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in 2020/21	(303)	(90,833)	169	7,018	(3,518)	(24,136)	10,574	1,414	-	(99,615)	118,028	18,413
Balance at 31 March 2021	(19,307)	(171,533)	(10,103)	(17,562)	(12,640)	(50,092)	-	(6,999)	(878)	(289,114)	(915,564)	(1,204,678)
Movement in Reserves during 2021/22												
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure	26,534	-	-	(16,743)	-	-	-	-	-	9,791	(280,787)	(270,996)
Adjustments between accounting basis & funding basis under regulations	3 (16,929)	-	-	20,788	-	(3,221)	(554)	(2,562)	-	(2,478)	2,478	-
Transfer to/(from) Earmarked Reserves	(10,706)	10,772	(66)	(2,047)	2,047	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Increase)/Decrease in 2021/22	(1,101)	10,772	(66)	1,998	2,047	(3,221)	(554)	(2,562)	-	7,313	(278,309)	(270,996)
Balance at 31 March 2022	(20,408)	(160,761)	(10,169)	(15,564)	(10,593)	(53,313)	(554)	(9,561)	(878)	(281,801)	(1,193,873)	(1,475,674)

General Fund and HRA Balances as disclosed in Note 1 Expenditure Funding Analysis note:

Balance as at 31 March 2020
Balance as at 31 March 2021
Balance as at 31 March 2022

General Fund Balances*	HRA Balances**	Total Balances
£000	£000	£000
(90,185)	(33,702)	(123,887)
(200,943)	(30,202)	(231,145)
(191,338)	(26,157)	(217,495)

* General Fund Balances were calculated by adding the General Fund (GF) balance, GF earmarked reserves and schools balance from the Movement in Reserves Statement.
** HRA Balances were calculated by adding the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and HRA earmarked reserves from the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement

This statement shows the accounting cost in the year of providing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from taxation. Authorities raise taxation to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The taxation position is shown in the Movement in Reserves statement.

	Notes	Year Ended 31 March 2022			Year Ended 31 March 2021		
		Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure	Gross Expenditure	Gross Income	Net Expenditure
		£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Services		174,024	(122,203)	51,821	176,690	(125,627)	51,063
Social Care		113,465	(66,325)	47,140	109,414	(59,864)	49,550
Economy		57,455	(45,392)	12,063	52,126	(64,560)	(12,434)
Local Authority Housing (HRA)		86,453	(82,794)	3,659	78,544	(79,779)	(1,235)
Local Authority Housing (HRA) - Dwelling Revaluation	5	(13,996)	-	(13,996)	(46,572)	-	(46,572)
Environment (including Parking)		110,842	(69,250)	41,592	99,453	(49,035)	50,418
Finance		10,647	(1,288)	9,359	9,482	(1,150)	8,332
Resources		29,670	(7,693)	21,977	26,701	(8,601)	18,100
Centrally Managed Budgets		117,836	(119,132)	(1,296)	107,431	(107,500)	(69)
Cost of Services		686,396	(514,077)	172,319	613,269	(496,116)	117,153
Other Operating Expenditure	6	6,352	8,710	15,062	3,724	4,023	7,747
Financing and investment income and expenditure	7	25,577	(5,324)	20,253	23,524	(4,845)	18,679
Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure	8	17,209	(215,052)	(197,843)	16,299	(246,652)	(230,353)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services				9,791			(86,774)
(Surplus) or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets				(56,944)			(31,529)
Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability	27			(223,843)			136,716
Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				(280,787)			105,187
Total Comprehensive Income and Expenditure				(270,996)			18,413

Balance Sheet

The Balance Sheet shows the value as at the Balance Sheet date of the assets and liabilities recognised by the Council. The net assets (assets less liabilities) are matched by the reserves held. Reserves are reported in two categories. The first category of reserves are usable reserves, i.e. those reserves that the Council may use to provide services, subject to the need to maintain a prudent level of reserves and any statutory limitations on their use (for example the Capital Receipts Reserve that may only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt). The second category of reserves, unusable reserves, are those that the Council is not able to use to provide services. This category of reserves includes reserves that hold unrealised gains and losses (for example the Revaluation Reserve), where amounts would only become available to provide services if the assets are sold; and reserves that hold timing differences shown in the Movement in Reserves Statement line 'Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under regulations'.

	Notes	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
		£000	£000
Property, Plant and Equipment	9	1,994,114	1,902,525
Heritage Assets	11	8,023	8,023
Investment Property	10	81,131	82,608
Intangible Assets		545	734
Assets Held for Sale	12	-	13,229
Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures	33	15,679	10,085
Long Term Debtors	21 & 33	14,502	8,523
Long Term Assets		2,113,994	2,025,728
Assets Held for Sale	12	13,229	-
Short Term Investments	21	124,658	164,017
Short Term Debtors	16	53,954	62,817
Inventories		98	68
Cash and Cash Equivalents	17	208,855	142,567
Current Assets		400,794	369,469
Short Term Borrowing	21	(2,581)	(2,575)
Short Term Creditors	18	(215,541)	(195,391)
Provisions	20	(26,071)	(25,794)
Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance	30	(10,374)	(6,525)
Current Liabilities		(254,567)	(230,285)
Long Term Borrowing	21	(272,011)	(272,005)
Long Term Creditors	21	(100)	(100)
Provisions	20	(6,000)	(6,376)
Other Long Term Liabilities	19	(483,224)	(664,454)
Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance	30	(23,212)	(17,299)
Long Term Liabilities		(784,547)	(960,234)
NET ASSETS		1,475,674	1,204,678
Usable Reserves	3b	(281,802)	(289,114)
Unusable Reserves	3c	(1,193,872)	(915,564)
TOTAL RESERVES		(1,475,674)	(1,204,678)

Cash Flow Statement

The Cash Flow Statement shows the changes in cash and cash equivalents of the Council during the reporting period. The statement shows how the Council generates and uses cash and cash equivalents by classifying cash flows as operating, investing and financing activities. The amount of net cash flows arising from operating activities is a key indicator of the extent to which the operations of the Council are funded by way of taxation and grant income or from the recipients of services provided by the Council. Investing activities represent the extent to which cash outflows have been made for resources which are intended to contribute to the Council's future service delivery. Cash flows arising from financing activities are useful in predicting claims on future cash flows by providers of capital (i.e. borrowing) to the Council. The Cashflow Statement has been prepared using the indirect method.

	Notes	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Net surplus or (deficit) on the provision of services		(9,791)	86,774
Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	22a	87,691	(71,380)
Adjust for items in the net deficit on the provision of services that are investing or financing activities		(14,836)	(3,944)
Net cash flows from Operating Activities		63,064	11,450
<u>Investing Activities</u>			
Purchase of Property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets		(81,547)	(72,024)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment, investment property and intangible assets		14,836	3,944
Net proceeds/payments in respect of short-term and long-term investments		33,765	(5,359)
Other receipts from investing activities		26,681	55,171
Net cash flows from Investing Activities		(6,265)	(18,268)
<u>Financing Activities</u>			
Net Cash receipts of short and long term borrowing		142	28,007
Cash payments for the reduction of the outstanding liabilities		(455)	(400)
Other proceeds/payments for financing activities		9,802	66,009
Net cash flows from Financing Activities		9,489	93,616
Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		66,288	86,798
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		142,567	55,769
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	17	208,855	142,567

NOTES TO THE CORE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The Expenditure and Funding Analysis shows how annual expenditure is used and funded from resources (government grants, rents, council tax and business rates) by local authorities in comparison with those resources consumed or earned by authorities in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices. It also shows how this expenditure is allocated for decision making purposes between the council's departments. Income and expenditure is presented more fully in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

2021/22

	As reported for resource management	Adjustments to arrive at Net Expenditure chargeable to GF and HRA Balances	Net Expenditure chargeable to GF and HRA Balances	Adjustments between Accounting and Funding Basis	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Services	55,810	(14,554)	41,256	10,565	51,821
Social Care	58,246	(13,876)	44,370	2,770	47,140
Economy	(6,564)	14,949	8,385	3,678	12,063
Local Authority Housing (HRA)	-	(21,531)	(21,531)	11,194	(10,337)
Environment (including Parking)*	49,468	(29,040)	20,428	21,164	41,592
Finance	1,532	6,600	8,132	1,227	9,359
Resources	8,871	10,183	19,054	2,923	21,977
Centrally Managed Budgets	17,566	(18,136)	(570)	(726)	(1,296)
	184,929	(65,405)	119,524	52,795	172,319
Other income and expenditure not charged to services	(56,809)	(49,065)	(105,874)	(56,654)	(162,528)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services before planned use of Earmarked Reserves	128,120	(114,470)	13,650	(3,859)	9,791
Opening Balance of General Fund/HRA Balances			(231,145)		
add: (Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services			13,650		
Closing Balance of General Fund/HRA Balances			(217,495)		

* Please note Parking Services is disclosed on a separate line in the management reporting.

2020/21

	As reported for resource management	Adjustments to arrive at Net Expenditure chargeable to GF and HRA Balances	Net Expenditure chargeable to GF and HRA Balances	Adjustments between Accounting and Funding Basis	Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Children's Services	55,874	(13,663)	42,211	8,852	51,063
Social Care	58,253	(7,028)	51,225	(1,675)	49,550
Economy	(39,815)	61,924	22,109	(34,543)	(12,434)
Local Authority Housing (HRA)	-	(15,711)	(15,711)	(32,096)	(47,807)
Environment (including Parking)*	59,803	(25,476)	34,327	16,091	50,418
Finance	3,284	4,828	8,112	220	8,332
Resources	4,151	12,882	17,033	1,067	18,100
Centrally Managed Budgets	3,298	(6,522)	(3,224)	3,155	(69)
	144,848	11,234	156,082	(38,929)	117,153
Other income and expenditure not charged to services	(145,149)	(98,400)	(243,549)	39,622	(203,927)
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services before planned use of Earmarked Reserves	(301)	(87,166)	(87,467)	693	(86,774)
Opening Balance of General Fund/ HRA Balances			(123,887)		
Opening Balance of General Fund/ HRA Balances - Adjustment			(19,791)		
add: (Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services			(87,467)		
Closing Balance of General Fund/ HRA Balances			(231,145)		

* Please note Parking Services is disclosed on a separate line in the management reporting.

The Cost of Service per the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is substantially similar to the position as reported to decision makers (per the management accounts as summarised in Narrative Report). This is because the Council's management accounts include technical items such as capital charges and pension adjustments where these are chargeable to services. The differences which do arise are attributable to items which are included within the Departmental analysis in the Council's management accounts but are reported below the cost of services line in the statements of accounts. These items primarily consist of financing income and expenditure, levies, and a small number of technical accounting entries.

1a. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis

The note below refers to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis statement and explains the adjustments between the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and net expenditure chargeable to General Fund and HRA balances for the following:

Adjustments for Capital Purposes

This column adds in depreciation and impairment and revaluation gains and losses in the services line, and for:

- Other operating expenditure – adjusts for capital disposals with a transfer of income on disposal of assets and the amounts written off for those assets.
- Financing and investment income and expenditure – the statutory charges for capital financing i.e. Minimum Revenue Provision and other revenue contributions are deducted from other income and expenditure as these are not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices.
- Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure – capital grants are adjusted for income not chargeable under generally accepted accounting practices. Revenue grants are adjusted from those receivable in the year to those receivable without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied throughout the year. The Taxation and Non-specific Grant Income and Expenditure line is credited with capital grants receivable in the year without conditions or for which conditions were satisfied in the year.

Net Change for the Pensions Adjustments

Net change for the removal of pension contributions and the addition of IAS 19 Employee Benefits pension related expenditure and income:

- For services this represents the removal of the employer pension contributions as allowed by statute and the replacement with current service costs and past service costs.
- For Financing and investment income and expenditure – the net interest on the defined benefit liability is charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Other Statutory Adjustments

Other statutory adjustments between amounts debited/credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and amounts payable/receivable to be recognised under statute:

- For Financing and investment income and expenditure, the other differences column recognises adjustments to the General Fund for the timing differences for premiums and discounts.
- The charge under Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure represents the difference between what is chargeable under statutory regulations for council tax and business rates that was projected to be received at the start of the year and the income recognised under generally accepted accounting practices in the Code. This is a timing difference as any difference will be brought forward in future surpluses or deficits on the Collection Fund.

1a. Note to the Expenditure and Funding Analysis (cont'd)

Adjustments from the General Fund and HRA to arrive at the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement amounts are set below

	2021/22				2020/21			
	Adjustments for Capital Purposes £000	Net Change for Pension Adjustments £000	Other Differences £000	Total Adjustments £000	Adjustments for Capital Purposes £000	Net Change for Pension Adjustments £000	Other Differences £000	Total Adjustments £000
Children's Services	(1,861)	(8,704)	-	(10,565)	(1,179)	(7,673)	-	(8,852)
Social Care	(204)	(2,566)	-	(2,770)	716	(457)	1,416	1,675
Economy	(1,333)	(2,345)	-	(3,678)	34,928	(385)	-	34,543
Local Authority Housing (HRA)	(2,462)	(8,732)	-	(11,194)	32,967	(871)	-	32,096
Environment (including Parking)*	(15,510)	(5,654)	-	(21,164)	(15,615)	(1,106)	630	(16,091)
Finance	(16)	(1,211)	-	(1,227)	70	(290)	-	(220)
Resources	(675)	(2,248)	-	(2,923)	(621)	(446)	-	(1,067)
Centrally Managed Budgets	-	218	508	726	(2,230)	(83)	(842)	(3,155)
Net Cost of Services	(22,061)	(31,242)	508	(52,795)	49,036	(11,311)	1,204	38,929
Other income and expenditure not charged to services - General Fund	(4,931)	(9,902)	39,505	24,672	3,851	(10,531)	(48,512)	(55,192)
Other income and expenditure not charged to services - HRA	30,880	(1,925)	3,027	31,982	16,456	(886)	-	15,570
(Surplus) or Deficit on Provision of Services	3,888	(43,069)	43,040	3,859	69,343	(22,728)	(47,308)	(693)

2. Expenditure and Income Analysed by Nature

This note analyses the nature of the Council's expenditure and income. The totals for income and expenditure vary from the totals for gross expenditure and income on the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, due to the treatment of internal recharges, and from showing business rates income and gains/losses on disposals as net figures in this note.

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Expenditure		
Employee Benefits	223,032	206,505
Other Services Expenses	440,533	420,072
Support Service Recharges	(1,469)	(588)
Capital Charges & Revaluations	24,767	(12,288)
Interest Payments	11,250	11,675
Levies	2,453	2,372
Business rates tariff	17,148	16,299
Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	3,954	1,352
Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)	13,400	11,417
Schools converted to Academy Status	467	-
Total Expenditure	735,535	656,816
Income		
Fees, Charges and other Service Income	(227,655)	(200,779)
Grants and Contributions	(381,729)	(453,085)
Income from Council Tax and NDR	(127,174)	(96,279)
Interest and Investment Income	2,109	2,509
(Gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	8,705	4,044
Total Income	(725,744)	(743,590)
(Surplus) or Deficit on the Provision of Services	9,791	(86,774)

3a. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations

This note details the adjustments that are made to the total comprehensive income and expenditure recognised in the year in accordance with proper accounting practice to arrive at the resources that are specified by statutory provisions as being available to meet future capital and revenue expenditure. The following sets out a description of the reserves that the adjustments are made against:

General Fund Balances - The General Fund includes any surplus after meeting net expenditure on Council services.

School Balances - This balance is comprised of unspent balances of schools and other educational establishments at the year end, which may be applied in the following year. The balances can only be used by the schools or establishments and are not available to the Council for general use.

Earmarked Reserves – these are amounts set aside for specific purposes see Note 4 for a description of each Earmarked Reserve.

Capital Grants Unapplied - These are capital grants with no payback conditions and have had no associated expenditure in 2021/22 or prior years.

Housing Revenue Account - This reserve provides a working balance for the Housing Revenue Account, for which transactions are ring-fenced under the provisions of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Major Repairs Reserve - The Major Repairs Reserve is available for financing major repairs to the Council's housing stock.

Capital Receipts Reserve - This reserve relates to the capital receipts from the sale of assets, such as Right-To-Buy properties and other general receipts.

Capital Reserves - This is funds we hold for capital purposes.

3a. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (cont'd)

2021/22	General Fund Balance £000	School Balances £000	Earmarked Reserves £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Housing Revenue Account £000	Major Repairs Reserve £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Reserves £000	Total Usable Reserves £000
Adjustments to the Revenue Resources									
Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:									
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	(32,411)	-	-	-	(10,657)	-	-	-	(43,068)
Financial instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74
Council tax and NDR (transfers to or from Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	28,562	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28,562
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	510	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	510
Equal pay settlements (transferred to the Unequal Pay Back Pay Account)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(40,715)	-	-	-	(7,483)	-	-	-	(48,198)
Transfer in-year Dedicated Schools Grant deficit/(surplus) (to DSG Adjustment Account)	2,174	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,174
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	(41,806)	-	-	-	(18,140)	-	-	-	(59,946)
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources									
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	47	-	-	-	14,152	-	(14,198)	-	1
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	-	-	-	-	(110)	-	110	-	-
Payments to the government housing receipts pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	(3,954)	-	-	-	-	-	3,954	-	-
Posting of HRA resources from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	-	-	-	-	17,566	(17,566)	-	-	-
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt (transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,000
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	713	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	713
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	(1,194)	-	-	-	31,608	(17,566)	(10,134)	-	2,714
Adjustments to Capital Resources									
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,572	-	7,572
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	17,012	-	-	17,012
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	17,621	-	-	8,498	4,293	-	-	-	30,412
Transfers of capital grants from revenue to Capital Grants Unapplied	8,693	-	-	(11,719)	3,027	-	-	-	1
Movements in the market value of investment properties	(243)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(243)
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	26,071	-	-	(3,221)	7,320	17,012	7,572	-	54,754
Total Adjustments	(16,929)	-	-	(3,221)	20,788	(554)	(2,562)	-	(2,478)

3a. Adjustments between Accounting Basis and Funding Basis under Regulations (cont'd)

2020/21	General Fund Balance £000	School Balances £000	Earmarked Reserves £000	Capital Grants Unapplied £000	Housing Revenue Account £000	Major Repairs Reserve £000	Capital Receipts Reserve £000	Capital Reserves £000	Total Usable Reserves £000
Adjustments to the Revenue Resources									
Amounts by which income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement are different from revenue for the year calculated in accordance with statutory requirements:									-
Pensions costs (transferred to (or from) the Pensions Reserve)	(20,970)	-	-	-	(1,757)	-	-	-	(22,727)
Financial instruments (transferred to the Financial Instruments Adjustments Account)	74	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	74
Council tax and NDR (transfers to or from Collection Fund Adjustment Account)	(50,148)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(50,148)
Holiday pay (transferred to the Accumulated Absences Reserve)	(778)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(778)
Reversal of entries included in the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in relation to capital expenditure (these items are charged to the Capital Adjustment Account)	(24,176)	-	-	-	29,083	(223)	-	-	4,684
Transfer in-year Dedicated Schools Grant deficit/(surplus) (to DSG Adjustment Account)	3,112								3,112
Total Adjustments to Revenue Resources	(92,886)	-	-	-	27,326	(223)	-	-	(65,783)
Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources									
Transfer of non-current asset sale proceeds from revenue to the Capital Receipts Reserve	45	-	-	-	3,422	-	(3,467)	-	-
Administrative costs of non-current asset disposals (funded by a contribution from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	(2)	-	-	-	(48)	-	50	-	-
Payments to the government housing receipts pool (funded by a transfer from the Capital Receipts Reserve)	(1,352)	-	-	-	-	-	1,352	-	-
Posting of HRA resources from revenue to the Major Repairs Reserve	-	-	-	-	15,490	(15,490)	-	-	-
Statutory provision for the repayment of debt (transfer from the Capital Adjustment Account)	2,888	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,888
Capital expenditure financed from revenue balances (transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account)	172	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	172
Total Adjustments between Revenue and Capital Resources	1,751	-	-	-	18,864	(15,490)	(2,065)	-	3,060
Adjustments to Capital Resources									
Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance capital expenditure	27,140	-	-	(26,650)	(491)	-	3,479	-	3,478
Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance capital expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	26,287	-	-	26,287
Application of capital grants to finance capital expenditure	16,688	-	-	2,514	1,967	-	-	-	21,169
Movements in the market value of investment properties	(1,052)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,052)
Cash payments in relation to deferred capital receipts	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Adjustments to Capital Resources	42,776	-	-	(24,136)	1,476	26,287	3,479	-	49,882
Total Adjustments	(48,359)	-	-	(24,136)	47,666	10,574	1,414	-	(12,841)

3b. Usable Reserves

Movements in usable reserves are detailed in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

3c Unusable Reserves

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Revaluation Reserve	(337,899)	(294,148)
Capital Adjustment Account	(1,363,405)	(1,340,943)
Pensions Reserve	477,078	657,853
Financial Instruments Adjustment Account	830	904
Collection Fund Adjustment Account	11,685	40,248
Accumulated Absences Account	3,334	3,843
Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account	14,505	16,679
Total Unusable Reserves	(1,193,872)	(915,564)

Revaluation Reserve

The Revaluation Reserve contains the gains made by the Council arising from increases in the value of its Property, Plant and Equipment. The balance is reduced when assets with accumulated gains are:

- revalued downwards or impaired and the gains are lost
- used in the provision of services and the gains are consumed through depreciation, or
- disposed of and the gains are realised.

The reserve contains only revaluation gains accumulated since 1 April 2007, the date that the reserve was created. Accumulated gains arising before that date are consolidated into the balance on the Capital Adjustment Account.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Balance as 1 April	(294,149)	(267,068)
Surplus or deficit on revaluation of non-current assets not posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	(56,944)	(31,529)
Difference between current value depreciation and historical cost depreciation	2,894	2,625
Accumulated gains on assets sold or scrapped	10,300	1,823
Amount written off to the Capital Adjustment Account	13,194	4,448
Balance at 31 March	(337,899)	(294,149)

Capital Adjustment Account

The Capital Adjustment Account absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for the consumption of non-current assets and for financing the acquisition, construction or enhancement of those assets under statutory provisions. The Account is debited with the cost of acquisition, construction or enhancement as depreciation, impairment losses and amortisations are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (with reconciling postings from the Revaluation Reserve to convert fair value figures to a historical cost basis). The Account is credited with the amounts set aside by the Council as finance for the costs of acquisition, construction and enhancement.

The Account contains accumulated gains and losses on Investment Properties and gains recognised on donated assets that have yet to be consumed by the Council. The Account also contains revaluation gains accumulated on Property, Plant and Equipment before 1 April 2007, the date that the Revaluation Reserve was created to hold such gains.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Balance as 1 April	(1,340,944)	(1,278,868)
Reversal of items relating to capital expenditure debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:		
• Charges for depreciation non-current assets	20,220	20,705
• Revaluation losses on property, plant and equipment	(17,628)	(52,041)
• Amortisation of intangible assets	190	266
• Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute	5,212	3,435
• Reversal of Major Repairs Allowance credited to the HRA	16,774	15,489
• Amounts of non-current assets written off on disposal or sale as part of the gain/loss on disposal to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	23,431	7,462
	48,199	(4,684)
Adjusting amounts written out of the Revaluation Reserve	(13,195)	(4,448)
Net written out amount of the cost of non-current assets consumed in the year	35,004	(9,132)
Capital financing applied in the year:		
• Use of the Capital Receipts Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(7,572)	(3,479)
• Use of the Major Repairs Reserve to finance new capital expenditure	(17,012)	(26,287)
• Capital grants and contributions applied	(30,381)	(21,170)
• Statutory provision for the financing of capital investment charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(2,000)	(2,888)
• Capital expenditure charged against the General Fund and HRA balances	(743)	(172)
	(57,708)	(53,996)
Movements in the market value of investment properties debited or credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	243	1,052
Balance at 31 March	(1,363,405)	(1,340,944)

Pensions Reserve

The Pensions Reserve absorbs the timing differences arising from the different arrangements for accounting for post-employment benefits and for funding benefits in accordance with statutory provisions. The Council accounts for post-employment benefits in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as the benefits are earned by employees accruing years of service, updating the liabilities recognised to reflect inflation, changing assumptions and investment returns on any resources set aside to meet the costs. However, statutory arrangements require benefits earned to be financed as the Council makes employer's contributions to pension funds or eventually pays any pensions for which it is directly responsible. The debit balance on the Pensions Reserve therefore shows a substantial shortfall in the benefits earned by past and current employees and the resources the Council has set aside to meet them. The statutory arrangements will ensure that funding will have been set aside by the time the benefits come to be paid.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Balance as 1 April	657,853	498,410
Remeasurements of the net defined benefit liability/(asset)	(223,843)	136,716
Reversal of items relating to retirement benefits debited or credited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	63,984	43,111
Employer's pensions contributions and direct payments to pensioners payable in the year	(20,916)	(20,384)
Balance as 31 March	477,078	657,853

Collection Fund Adjustment Account

The Collection Fund Adjustment Account manages the differences arising from the recognition of council tax income in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as it falls due from council taxpayers compared with the statutory arrangements for paying across amounts to the General Fund from the Collection Fund.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Balance as 1 April	40,247	(9,900)
Amount by which council tax and non-domestic rates income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is different from council tax and non-domestic rates income calculated for the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(28,562)	50,147
Balance as 31 March	11,685	40,247

Accumulated Absences Account

The Accumulated Absences Account absorbs the differences that would otherwise arise on the General Fund Balance from accruing for compensated absences earned but not taken in the year, e.g. annual leave entitlement carried forward at 31 March. Statutory arrangements require that the impact on the General Fund Balance is neutralised by transfers to or from the Account.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Balance as 1 April	3,843	3,065
Amount by which officer remuneration charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on an accruals basis is different from remuneration chargeable in the year in accordance with statutory requirements	(509)	778
Balance as 31 March	3,334	3,843

Dedicated Schools Grant Adjustment Account

The DSG Adjustment Account represents the DSG deficit balance. Parliament approved the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 in November 2020 which amends the 2003 Regulations by establishing new accounting practices in relation to the treatment of local authorities' schools budget deficits which must now be recorded in a separate account established solely for the purpose of recording deficits relating to school's budget.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Restated Balance as 1 April	16,679	19,791
In-year Dedicated Schools Grant (surplus)/deficit (to DSG Adjustment Account)	(2,174)	(3,112)
Balance as 31 March	14,505	16,679

4a. Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves

This note sets out the amounts set aside from the General Fund and HRA balances in earmarked reserves to provide financing for future expenditure plans and the amounts posted back from earmarked reserves to meet General Fund and HRA expenditure in 2021/22.

	Balance at 31 March 2020 £000	Transfers Out 2020/21 £000	Transfers In 2020/21 £000	Movement Between Reserves 2020/21 £000	Balance at 31 March 2021 £000	Transfers Out 2021/22 £000	Transfers In 2021/22 £000	Movement Between Reserves 2021/22 £000	Balance at 31 March 2022 £000
General Fund Reserves									
1 Insurance Fund	(5,932)	6	(11)	-	(5,937)	689	-	-	(5,248)
2 Controlled Parking Fund	(267)	312	(521)	-	(476)	275	(521)	-	(722)
3 Efficiency Projects Reserve	(664)	183	(750)	-	(1,231)	-	(750)	-	(1,981)
4 Corporate Demand Pressures	(12,511)	7,597	(21,236)	(2,440)	(28,590)	3,116	(6,749)	3,856	(28,367)
5 Temporary Accommodation	(450)	-	-	-	(450)	-	-	-	(450)
6 Supporting People Programme	(600)	-	-	-	(600)	300	-	-	(300)
7 Troubled Families	(795)	-	(34)	-	(829)	-	(805)	-	(1,634)
8 C19 Collection Fund Smoothing Reserve	-	12,519	(52,757)	(1,200)	(41,438)	39,701	(19,738)	(1,877)	(23,352)
9 Partners in Practice	(957)	-	-	-	(957)	465	(465)	-	(957)
10 Civic Campus	(9,515)	7,240	(1,159)	-	(3,434)	4,968	(816)	(6,215)	(5,497)
11 Managed Services	(706)	78	(500)	-	(1,128)	-	(132)	-	(1,260)
12 Corporate People Reserve	-	-	(150)	-	(150)	-	-	-	(150)
13 Corporate Technology & IT	(1,194)	-	(1,851)	-	(3,045)	-	(1,911)	-	(4,956)
14 Planning Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	(1,723)	-	(1,723)
15 Corporate Property Reserve	-	-	(650)	-	(650)	150	-	-	(500)
16a Dedicated Schools Grant Support Reserve	(19,119)	-	-	2,440	(16,679)	-	-	4,859	(11,820)
16b Dedicated Schools Grant Deficit	19,791	-	(19,791)	-	-	-	(2,685)	-	(2,685)
16c Dedicated Schools Grant - Schools & Early years Block	(671)	-	(1,502)	-	(2,173)	1,874	-	-	(299)
17 Covid Response Support & Unringfenced Reserve	(6,221)	-	(4,906)	1,200	(9,927)	8,721	(6,673)	1,877	(6,002)
18 NHS contributions for Social Care	-	-	-	-	-	-	(2,575)	-	(2,575)
19 Homlessness Prevention Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	(750)	-	(750)
20 Pre-Development Costs Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(5,000)	(5,000)
21 Other Funds	(4,182)	398	(3,828)	-	(7,612)	799	(922)	2,500	(5,235)
General Fund Reserves Sub-Total	(43,993)	28,333	(109,646)	-	(125,306)	61,058	(47,215)	-	(111,463)

4a. Transfers to/from Earmarked Reserves (cont'd)

	Balance at 31 March 2020 £000	Transfers Out 2020/21 £000	Transfers In 2020/21 £000	Movement Between Reserves 2020/21 £000	Balance at 31 March 2021 £000	Transfers Out 2021/22 £000	Transfers In 2021/22 £000	Movement Between Reserves 2021/22 £000	Balance at 31 March 2022 £000
General Fund Revenue Grants									
22 S106 - Revenue Schemes	(16,362)	13,505	(43,192)	-	(46,049)	11,666	(14,533)	-	(48,916)
23 Other Revenue Grants	(552)	397	(23)	-	(178)	4	(208)	-	(382)
General Fund Revenue Grants Sub-Total	(16,914)	13,902	(43,215)	-	(46,227)	11,670	(14,741)	-	(49,298)
General Fund Total	(60,907)	42,235	(152,861)	-	(171,533)	72,728	(61,956)	-	(160,761)
HRA Reserves									
24 HRA Efficiency Reserve	(428)	254	-	-	(174)	-	-	-	(174)
25 HRA Non-dwellings Impairment Reserve	(6,743)	1,829	-	-	(4,914)	2,157	-	-	(2,757)
26 HRA Strategic Regeneration and Housing Development	(1,696)	-	(1,900)	-	(3,596)	-	-	-	(3,596)
27 HRA Utilities Reserve	-	-	(1,962)	-	(1,962)	-	-	-	(1,962)
28 Disrepairs Compensation and Legal costs	-	-	-	-	-	-	(514)	-	(514)
29 Other HRA Funds	(255)	64	(1,803)	-	(1,994)	440	(36)	-	(1,590)
HRA Total	(9,122)	2,147	(5,665)	-	(12,640)	2,597	(550)	-	(10,593)
Total	(70,029)	44,382	(158,526)	-	(184,173)	75,325	(62,506)	-	(171,354)

4b. Earmarked Reserves Description

1	Insurance Fund	This was established to underwrite a proportion of the Council's insurable risks.
2	Controlled Parking Fund	The surplus from the running of the Controlled Parking operations within the Borough is accumulated in this Fund. In the past, this reserve had to be used to meet expenditure on transport and highways related activities.
3	Efficiency Projects Reserve	This reserve will fund future revenue expenditure and capital investment that will provide future revenue savings.
4	Corporate Demand Pressures	To meet unbudgeted demands and pressures.
5	Temporary Accommodation	This reserve has been set up to deal with possible shortfalls arising out of the introduction of a cap on rental income received for temporary accommodation.
6	Supporting People Programme	This reserve has been set up to enable the Supporting People programme to be managed over a rolling 3-year cycle in line with the contracts let with service suppliers.
7	Troubled Families	This reserve has been created to carry forward funding that has already been earned, but not spent, into future years of the project in order to fund the costs associated with running the programme.
8	C19 Collection Fund Smoothing Reserve	This is a COVID 19 reserve to smooth the impact of statutory timing differences between funding and impact business rates and council tax deficits.
9	Partners in Practice	This is a reserve for Children's Services social care practice improvement as part of DFE innovation programme.
10	Civic Campus (previously King Street West)	This is held to fund the costs of implementing the Civic Campus redevelopment.
11	Managed Services	This reserve is used to fund the cost of major developments to support the Managed Services partnership.
12	Corporate People Reserve	This is the consolidation of various Human Resource related reserves.
13	Corporate Technology & IT	This reserve is used to finance IT projects.
14	Planning Reserve	This reserve is to support funding of CIL related expenditure and projects.
15	Corporate Property Reserve	This is to be used to cover the one-off costs related to LBHF property management.
16	DSG - Various	<p><i>16a. DSG Reserve – Deficit Set-Aside</i></p> <p>This reserve offsets the DSG Unusable Reserve – Deficit to ensure that the expenditure incurred to date can be fully funded in light of continuing pressures and in the event that the deficit recovery plan is unable to recover the current cumulative position. Overall the DSG reserve (deficit and deficit set-aside) is nil as the cumulative deficit is matched by the reserve set aside.</p> <p><i>16b. DSG Deficit Reserve</i></p> <p>Parliament has approved the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 in November 2020 which amends the 2003 Regulations by establishing new accounting practices in relation to the treatment of local authorities' schools budget deficits which must now be recorded in a separate account established solely for the purpose of recording deficits relating to school's budget and account for the cumulative Dedicated Schools Grant deficit in unusable reserves. As the statutory requirement is time limited, it continues to set aside reserves to match the High Needs Block deficit until such time as the cumulative deficit is eliminated.</p> <p><i>16c. DSG (Schools & Early years Block) Reserve</i></p> <p>This reserve records the cumulative balance on the Schools and Early years block. Grant deficit to unusable reserves.</p>
17	Covid Response Support & Unringfenced Reserve	This comprises of the Covid LA support and the Local Authority Discretionary Grant Fund transferred to reserve to meet future commitments.
18	NHS contributions for Social Care	This reserve includes funds held as contributions for various health and social care programmes.
19	Homelessness Prevention Reserve	This reserve is used to deliver homelessness prevention outcomes.
20	Pre-Development Costs Reserve	This reserve is to provide for the risk associated with the council's general fund capital strategy and initiatives.
21	Other Funds	This comprises a number of smaller reserves, existing to fund various projects and potential future commitments
22	S106 - Revenue Schemes	These reserves exist to fund various projects and potential future commitments in line with the requirements of the agreements.
23	Revenue Grants	These are grants which have been transferred as an earmarked reserve due to the implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

24	HRA Efficiency Reserve	This reserve is to provide funding for the one-off costs associated with implementing MTFS savings.
25	HRA Non-Dwellings Impairment Reserve	This reserve is to smooth the future impact of non-dwellings impairments on the HRA following the introduction of HRA self-financing.
26	HRA Strategic Regeneration and Housing Development	This reserve is to provide for the risk associated with the council's strategy and regeneration and housing development initiatives.
27	HRA Utilities Reserve	This reserve is to cover the potential impact of applying OFWAT "Water resale order" under which water charges to tenants must be set to equal expenditure incurred by LBHF on a property by property basis.
28	Disrepairs Compensation and Legal costs	This is a reserve to provide for the further and continuing impact of Welfare Reform.
29	Other HRA Funds	This reserve is to fund various smaller projects specific to the HRA.

5. Material Items of Income and Expense

Transactions in 2021/22

HRA Dwellings have been revalued upwards in-year. The upward revaluation is approximately 4.4%. The size of the asset base means that this revaluation is a material amount. The gross revaluation increase recognised in CIES is £14m.

Queensmill School which was a LBHF maintained school converted to Academy status in year, resulting in the transfer of land and buildings with a net book value of £19.9m. This Academy transfer has been reflected as a disposal loss in the Council's accounts and is included in note 6 on the (gains)/losses on disposal line.

Combined gains valued at £10.6m was realised on disposals of Right-to-Buy and Non Right-to-Buy properties made up of net proceeds of £14m less Net Book Value of £3.4m.

Transactions in 2020/21

HRA Dwellings have been revalued upwards in-year. The upward revaluation is approximately 8.3%. The size of the asset base means that this revaluation is a material amount. The gross revaluation increase recognised in CIES is £46.6m.

Surplus Assets (SA) contain material upwards valuations in-year due to market factors. A total of £7.9m gain was recognised in CIES.

6. Other Operating Expenditure

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Levies	2,393	2,372
Payments to the Government Housing Capital Receipts Pool	3,954	1,352
(Gains)/losses on the disposal of non-current assets	8,705	4,044
Other Operating Income and Expenditure	10	(21)
Total	15,062	7,747

7. Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Interest payable and similar charges	11,250	11,675
Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)	13,400	11,417
Interest receivable and similar income	(290)	(372)
Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties	(6,973)	(6,922)
Net (gains)/losses from fair value adjustments on investment properties	2,399	2,330
Net (gains)/losses from fair value adjustments on assets held for sale	-	551
Schools converted to Academy Status	467	-
Total	20,253	18,679

8. Taxation and non-specific grant income and expenditure

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Non-domestic rates income	(59,570)	(33,889)
NDR Levy	60	-
Business rates tariff	17,148	16,299
Non-domestic rates income and expenditure	(42,362)	(17,590)
Council Tax Income	(67,603)	(62,390)
Non-ringfenced government grants	(70,940)	(106,062)
Capital grants and contributions	(16,938)	(44,311)
Total	(197,843)	(230,353)

9. Property, Plant and Equipment

(i) Movements on Balances

Movements in 2021/22

	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £000	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000	PFI Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2021	1,412,222	332,591	8,669	27,923	34,810	25,516	1,841,731	26,063
Additions	40,109	2,094	723	233	-	26,706	69,865	-
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	20,688	20,813	-	-	5,043	-	46,544	576
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	4,787	2,320	-	-	704	-	7,811	-
Derecognition – disposals	(2,925)	(20,202)	-	-	-	-	(23,127)	-
Derecognition – other	(519)	-	-	-	-	-	(519)	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from PPE	-	(1,580)	-	-	1,580	-	-	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from Investment Properties	-	(256)	-	-	-	-	(256)	-
Other reclassifications	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	1,474,362	335,780	9,392	28,156	42,137	52,222	1,942,049	26,639
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment								
At 1 April 2021	-	(607)	(2,757)	(18,440)	-	-	(21,804)	-
Depreciation charge	(16,774)	(3,833)	(1,409)	(1,900)	(44)	-	(23,960)	(391)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	7,530	2,827	-	-	43	-	10,400	391
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	9,203	582	-	-	30	-	9,815	-
Derecognition – disposals	41	296	-	-	-	-	337	-
Derecognition – other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other movements in depreciation and impairment	-	29	-	-	(29)	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	-	(706)	(4,166)	(20,340)	-	-	(25,212)	-
Net Book Value								
at 31 March 2022	1,474,362	335,074	5,226	7,816	42,137	52,222	1,916,837	26,639

9. Property, Plant and Equipment (cont'd)

(i) Movements on Balances

Movements in 2020/21

	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £000	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total Property, Plant and Equipment £000	PFI Assets Included in Property, Plant and Equipment £000
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2020	1,304,292	342,103	12,322	27,817	39,675	10,495	1,736,704	27,047
Additions	42,840	1,295	351	405	1,803	18,796	65,490	-
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	29,545	(7,548)	-	-	988	-	22,985	(984)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	36,283	(2,872)	-	-	7,862	-	41,273	-
Derecognition – disposals	(738)	-	-	-	(1,738)	-	(2,476)	-
Derecognition – other	-	(4,162)	(4,004)	(299)	-	-	(8,465)	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from Held for Sale	-	-	-	-	(13,780)	-	(13,780)	-
Assets reclassified (to)/from Investment Properties	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other reclassifications	-	3,775	-	-	-	(3,775)	-	-
At 31 March 2021	1,412,222	332,591	8,669	27,923	34,810	25,516	1,841,731	26,063
Accumulated Depreciation and Impairment								
At 1 April 2020	-	(481)	(5,345)	(16,628)	-	-	(22,454)	-
Depreciation charge	(15,489)	(3,925)	(1,416)	(2,111)	(48)	-	(22,989)	(413)
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Revaluation Reserve	5,191	3,312	-	-	41	-	8,544	413
Revaluation increases/(decreases) recognised in the Surplus/Deficit on the Provision of Services	10,289	477	-	-	2	-	10,768	-
Derecognition – disposals	9	-	-	-	5	-	14	-
Derecognition – other	-	11	4,004	299	-	-	4,314	-
Other movements in depreciation and impairment	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2021	-	(606)	(2,757)	(18,440)	-	-	(21,803)	-
Net Book Value								
at 31 March 2021	1,412,222	331,985	5,912	9,483	34,810	25,516	1,819,928	26,063

9. Property, Plant and Equipment (cont'd)

(i) Movements on Balances

Infrastructure assets

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Net book value (modified historical cost) at 1st April	82,597	88,696
Additions	7,710	7,102
Depreciation	(13,030)	(13,201)
Net book value at 31st March	77,277	82,597

Reconciliation to Total PPE Assets

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Infrastructure Assets	77,277	82,597
Other PPE Assets	1,916,837	1,819,928
Total PPE Assets	1,994,114	1,902,525

The authority has determined in accordance with Regulation 30M England of the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 that the carrying amounts to be derecognised for infrastructure assets when there is replacement expenditure is nil.

(ii) Depreciation and Useful life

The following useful lives and depreciation rates have been used in the calculation of depreciation:

Council Dwellings (Building element only - land not depreciated)	46- 53 years
Other Land and Buildings (Building element only - land not depreciated)	40 - 54 years
Surplus Assets (Building element only - land not depreciated)	50 - 54 years
Infrastructure Assets	3 - 40 years
Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment	5 - 25 years
Community Assets	5 - 73 years

9. Property, Plant and Equipment (cont'd)

(iii) Effect of Changes in Estimates

In 2021/22 the Council made no material changes to its accounting estimates for Property, Plant and Equipment.

(iv) Revaluation and Impairments

The Council carries out a rolling programme that ensures that all Property, Plant and Equipment required to be measured at current value is revalued through full inspection at least every four years. The Council has used the external valuation contractor Wilks Head & Eve to carry out the valuations under instruction from the Council's internal Valuation and Property Services. Rolling programme values are reviewed internally to ensure they are not materially misstated at balance sheet date. Valuations of land and buildings were carried out in accordance with the methodologies and bases for estimation set out in the professional standards of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors. Valuations have an effective date of 31 March 2022.

The significant assumptions applied in estimating the current values are:

- Valuations of owner occupied properties reflect special adaptations or particular suitability of the premises for the existing use, but specifically exclude, so far as possible value attributable to goodwill and alternative uses.
- No allowance has been made for any national or local tax whether existing or which may arise in the future.
- All properties except Housing Dwellings have been valued on an individual basis, thus envisaging that they will be marketed individually or in groups over an appropriate period of time.
- Except where specific information is available, properties have been properly maintained and are in good repair and condition.

	Council Dwellings £000	Other Land and Buildings £000	Infrastructure Assets £000	Vehicles, Plant, Furniture & Equipment £000	Community Assets £000	Surplus Assets £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Total £000
Carrying value under Cost Model	1,462,324	226,598	77,277	5,226	7,816	75,491	52,222	1,906,954
Carried at Historical Cost	-	-	77,277	5,226	7,816	-	52,222	142,541
Valued at current value as at:								
31 March 2022	1,474,362	309,369	-	-	-	42,137	-	1,825,868
31 March 2021	-	7,020	-	-	-	-	-	7,020
31 March 2020	-	11,077	-	-	-	-	-	11,077
31 March 2019	-	7,608	-	-	-	-	-	7,608
	1,474,362	335,074	77,277	5,226	7,816	42,137	52,222	1,994,114

9. Property, Plant and Equipment (cont'd)

(iv) Revaluation and Impairments continued.

The Council values its dwellings in accordance with the proper practice set out in the Government guidance "Stock Valuation for Resource Accounting: Guidance for Valuers - 2016". Under the requirements of the "beacon system" of valuation and 75 per cent discount applied to the open market valuation of the dwellings using the "Existing Use Valuation - Social Housing" methodology, the Council's capital expenditure on its dwelling stock does not increase the value of the assets on a pound-for-pound basis; at best the value of a dwelling will be increased by only 25 per cent of the capital expenditure incurred upon it.

Desktop revaluation of housing dwellings stock as at 31 March 2022 was commissioned by the Council and completed by the external valuer Wilks, Head and Eve. A revaluation based on full inspection of housing dwellings stock is scheduled for 2024/25.

Where assets are revalued downwards and revaluation losses are in excess of the available Revaluation Reserve, balances are debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services. A review of property, plant and equipment was carried out for 2021/22 and there were no cases of impairment of assets to report.

Impairment and valuation losses not covered by the Revaluation Reserve in relation to HRA dwellings - are charged to the HRA Income & Expenditure Statement but will continue to be reversible through a transfer to the Capital Adjustment Account (CAA) via the Movement in Reserves Statement (MIRS). Valuation gains in relation to HRA dwellings, where taken to the HRA income and expenditure statement, can also be reversed under the Item 8 Credit and Debit Determination, by a transfer to the CAA via the MIRS.

Impairment and valuation losses not covered by the Revaluation Reserve in relation to HRA non-dwellings can now be reversed in the same way as losses for dwellings. As with dwellings, valuation gains for non-dwellings, where taken to the HRA income and expenditure statement, can also be reversed by a transfer to the CAA via the MIRS.

(v) Capital Commitments

The total of capital commitments exceeding £2m at the balance sheet date were as follows:

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Service Department	£000	£000
Housing Revenue Account	15,892	20,455
Regeneration and Community Projects	115,382	90,679
Affordable Housing Schemes	63,616	1,582
	194,890	112,716

10. Investment Properties

The following items of income and expense have been accounted for in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Rental income from investment property	(7,433)	(7,354)
Direct operating expenses (including repairs and maintenance) arising from investment properties	460	432
Net (gain)/loss	(6,973)	(6,922)

(i) Revaluation

In 2021/22 the Council commissioned a full revaluation of its investment properties including an inspection of each property where appropriate as at the balance sheet date of 31st March 2022. The work was undertaken by our independent external valuers - Wilks, Head & Eve, whose staff are qualified surveyors with the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). The valuation bases are in accordance with the Statement of Asset Valuation Practices and Guidance Notes of RICS.

There are no restrictions on the Council's ability to realise the value inherent in its investment property or on the Council's right to the remittance of income and the proceeds of disposal. The Council has no contractual obligations to purchase, construct or develop investment property or for repairs, maintenance or enhancements.

The following table summarises the movement in the fair value of investment properties over the year:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Balance at start of the year	82,608	84,245
Additions:		
• Subsequent expenditure	666	1,390
Derecognition	-	(697)
Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments	(2,399)	(2,330)
Transfers:		
• (to)/from Property, Plant and Equipment	256	-
Balance at end of the year	81,131	82,608

(ii) Fair Value Hierarchy

The Council's commercial land, office and retail asset valuations have been based on the market approach using current market conditions and recent sales prices and other relevant information for similar assets in the locality. Market conditions for these asset types are such that the levels of observable inputs, such as assumed void periods, estimated rental value and capitalisation rate (equivalent yield), are significant leading to all the Council's investment properties being categorised at Level 2 in the Fair Value hierarchy (see Note 38 Accounting Policies for an explanation of the fair value levels). There were no changes in valuation techniques and no transfers between Levels 1 and 2 during 2021/22.

11. Heritage Assets

(i) Movement on Balances

	Art Collections £000	Books & Printed Materials £000	Ceramics & Glass £000	Other Heritage Assets £000	Total Assets £000
Cost or Valuation					
At 1 April 2021	7,688	131	118	86	8,023
Movement on balance	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2022	7,688	131	118	86	8,023

There have been no movements on Heritage Assets in 2021/22.

12. Assets Held for Sale

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Balance outstanding at start of year	13,229	-
Additions:		
Assets newly classified as held for sale:		
• Property, Plant and Equipment	-	13,780
Net gains/(losses) from fair value adjustments	-	(551)
Balance outstanding at year-end	13,229	13,229

Assets Held for Sale have been classified under current assets in 2021/22 as the asset was subsequently sold during the 2022/23 financial year.

13. Capital Expenditure and Capital Financing

The total amount of capital expenditure incurred in the year is shown in the table below (including the value of assets acquired under finance leases and PFI/PPP contracts), together with the resources that have been used to finance it. Where capital expenditure is to be financed in future years by charges to revenue as assets are used by the Council, the expenditure results in an increase in the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR), a measure of the capital expenditure incurred historically by the Council that has yet to be financed. The CFR is analysed in the second part of this note.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Opening Capital Financing Requirement	385,614	350,865
Capital Investment		
Property, Plant and Equipment	77,576	72,593
Investment Properties	666	1,390
Intangible Assets	-	94
Revenue Expenditure Funded from Capital under Statute	5,212	3,435
Capital Funding of third-party capital loans	11,573	11,080
Sources of Finance		
Capital receipts - used to fund Capital Expenditure	(7,572)	(3,479)
Government grants and other contributions	(43,106)	(47,134)
Sums set aside from revenue:		
Direct revenue contributions	(743)	(172)
MRP	(2,000)	(3,210)
Voluntary Application of Capital Receipts	(4,288)	-
Deferred costs of capital disposals	122	152
Closing Capital Financing Requirement	423,054	385,614
Explanation of movements in year		
Increase in underlying need to borrow	41,669	34,659
(Decrease) in underlying need to borrow	(63)	(63)
Voluntary application of Capital Receipts to repay debt	(4,288)	-
Increase/(Decrease) in Deferred costs of capital disposals	122	153
Increase/(decrease) in Capital Financing Requirement	37,440	34,749

14. Leases (Finance and Operating)

Council as Lessee

Finance Leases

The Council is not engaged in any material Finance Leases as a Lessee.

Operating Leases

The Council has acquired some office accommodation, hostels, depot facilities and a range of vehicles and office equipment by entering into operating leases.

The future minimum lease payments due under these non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Not later than one year	3,568	4,595
Later than one year and not later than five years	5,849	10,523
Later than five years	6,711	7,660
	16,128	22,778

The Council has sub-let some of the accommodation held under these leases. At 31st of March 2022 the minimum income expected to be received under sub-leases was £480k.

The expenditure charged to the service revenue accounts during the year in relation to these leases was:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Minimum lease payments	4,602	4,654
Sublease payments receivable	(52)	(52)
	4,550	4,602

Council as Lessor

Finance Leases

The Council is not engaged in any material Finance Leases as a Lessor.

Operating Leases

The Council leases out property and equipment under operating leases for the following purposes:

- for the provision of community services, such as sports facilities, day centres and community centres
- for economic development purposes providing suitable affordable accommodation for local businesses
- as an investment to make the use of the Council's assets

14. Leases (Finance and Operating) (cont'd)

The future minimum lease payments receivable under non-cancellable leases in future years are:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Not later than one year	4,457	4,407
Later than one year and not later than five years	15,193	14,783
Later than five years	9,093	9,439
	28,743	28,629

The minimum lease payments receivable do not include rents that are contingent on events taking place after the lease was entered into, such as adjustments following rent reviews. No material contingent rents were receivable by the Council.

15. Private Finance Initiative

2021/22 was the seventeenth year of a 25-year Private Finance Initiative (PFI) to provide new services for vulnerable older people in the borough. The PFI has created three new nursing homes (one of which was completed one year later than the other two). Hammersmith & Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group also share the services provided at these sites through a back-to-back agreement with the Council.

At the end of the contract ownership of the homes reverts to the Council. A Memorandum of Understanding was agreed in 2015-16 to rebase the Unitary Charge and to clarify that payments are adjusted annually for CPI. The Memorandum does not change any other significant aspect of the contract.

Property Plant and Equipment

The assets used to provide services at the residential care and nursing homes and sheltered accommodation are recognised on the Council's Balance Sheet. Movements in their value over the year are detailed in the analysis of the movement on the Property, Plant and Equipment balance in Note 9.

Payments

The Council makes an agreed payment each year (Unitary Charge) which is adjusted each year by inflation and can be reduced if the contractor fails to meet availability and performance standards in any year but which is otherwise fixed. The annual Unitary Charge has been split into service charge, liability and interest.

Payments remaining to be made under the PFI contract at 31 March 2022 (excluding the effect of changes in market conditions and availability/performance deductions) are as follows:

	Payment for Services £000	Liability £000	Interest £000	Total £000
Payable in 2022/23	5,912	455	961	7,328
Payable within two to five years	24,763	2,559	3,106	30,428
Payable within six to ten years	22,199	3,587	1,287	27,073
	52,874	6,601	5,354	64,829

Although the payments made to the contractor are described as unitary payments, they have been calculated to compensate the contractor for the fair value of the services they provide, the capital expenditure incurred and interest payable whilst the capital expenditure remains to be reimbursed. The liability outstanding to pay the liability to the contractor for capital expenditure incurred is as follows:

15. Private Finance Initiative (cont'd)

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	(Restated)
		£000
Balance outstanding at start of year	7,001	7,352
Payments during the year	(400)	(351)
Capital expenditure incurred in the year	-	-
Balance outstanding at year-end	6,601	7,001

16. Debtors

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Council Tax Receivable from Taxpayers	18,733	14,205
Non Domestic Rates Receivable from Taxpayers	19,685	18,425
Business Rates Supplement Debtor	1,574	1,523
Trade Debtors	27,785	29,887
Other Debtors	31,290	32,932
VAT Debtors	6,770	8,476
Prepayments and Accrued Income	18,610	25,614
Impairment Allowance for Doubtful Debts	(70,493)	(68,244)
Total	53,954	62,817

17. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The balance of Cash and Cash Equivalents is made up of the following elements:

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Cash held by the Council	87	89
Bank current accounts	146	321
School bank accounts	10,118	10,493
Short-term deposits	204,420	133,350
Total	214,771	144,253
Bank overdraft*	(5,916)	(1,687)
	(5,916)	(1,687)
Net Cash and Cash Equivalents	208,855	142,567

*The year-end bank overdraft reflects the bank position including all outstanding and unrepresented items. LBHF does not operate a physical bank overdraft as part of its cash management policy. This presentation is a technical requirement under IFRS.

The detailed analysis of the movement in Cash & Cash Equivalents is illustrated on the Cash Flow Statement and Note 22.

18. Creditors

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Council Tax Creditor	(1,801)	(1,708)
NDR Retained Income Creditor	(112,520)	(65,917)
NDR Taxpayers Receipts not yet Paid to Government	(53)	(53)
Council Tax Refundable to Taxpayers	(5,607)	(6,534)
Non Domestic Rates Refundable to Taxpayers	(12,966)	(12,247)
Other Tax and Social Security Payable	(3,416)	(2,634)
Trade Creditors	(2,818)	(5,644)
Other Creditors	(75,905)	(100,254)
Short Term PFI Lease Liability	(455)	(400)
Total	(215,541)	(195,391)

19. Other Long-Term Liabilities

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Net Pensions Liability	(477,078)	(657,853)
Private Finance Initiative (PFI) Liability	(6,146)	(6,601)
TOTAL	(483,224)	(664,454)

20. Provisions

	Insurance £000	NDR - Losses on Appeals £000	Other Provisions £000	Total £000
Balance at 31 March 2020	(2,283)	(28,524)	(8,834)	(39,641)
Additional provisions	(106)	(3,991)	(2,345)	(6,442)
Amounts used	-	-	1,903	1,903
Unused amounts reversed	-	12,010	-	12,010
Balance at 31 March 2021	(2,389)	(20,505)	(9,276)	(32,170)
Additional provisions	-	(16,808)	(9,215)	(26,023)
Amounts used	-	-	673	673
Unused amounts reversed	159	20,505	4,784	25,448
Balance at 31 March 2022	(2,230)	(16,808)	(13,034)	(32,072)
<i>Of which will be used in:</i>				
Next twelve months	(2,230)	(16,808)	(7,034)	(26,072)
Over twelve months	-	-	(6,000)	(6,000)
Balance at 31 March 2022	(2,230)	(16,808)	(13,034)	(32,072)

Following the introduction of the new Business Rates Retention Scheme by Central Government on 1 April 2013, the Council must account for its share of Non-Domestic Rates assets and liabilities. As a result of this, the Council has been exposed to a significant number of outstanding ratings appeals. The estimated liability for this has been included in the table above.

The Council's insurance provision (held for known future insurance claims resulting from the Council's self-insurance of liability risks and fire damage) received a full actuarial assessment of the Insurance Fund position as at 31 December 2020. The provision is based upon updated professional estimates of continuing open claims identified in that year's assessment. It also reflects claims that have been currently received for which they expect payment in the next 12 months.

20. Provisions (cont'd)

During 1992/93, the then Council's insurers, Municipal Mutual Insurance (MMI), ceased accepting new business. The Council is a member of a scheme of arrangement that has been put into place to try to ensure an orderly settlement of the run-off of MMI. The scheme of arrangement was triggered in 2012/13 and the Council was required to pay a levy of £426k in 2013/14, for which a provision was made in 2012/13 accounts; representing 15% of claims payments made to date. MMI in setting this 15% levy chose a mid-point based upon an actuarial analysis of potential future losses with the aim of ensuring a solvent run off of current losses and those yet to emerge. This means the Council will be required to fund 25% of all payments for any newly reported losses during the period of MMI policy coverage prior to 1993. The Council has sufficient funds in its Insurance reserve to cover this exposure. The recent actuarial assessment estimates the LBHF share of ongoing MMI Liability at £321k based on outstanding and incurred but not reported claims.

Other provisions include amounts to cover refunds to tenants and leaseholders for previously levied water rate charges, legal settlements, parking charge refunds, repairs and maintenance works, and smaller provisions.

21. Financial Instruments

(i) Financial Instruments - Balances

The following categories of financial instruments are carried in the Balance Sheet:

	Long Term		Current	
	31 March 2022	31 March 2021	31 March 2022	31 March 2021 (restated)
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial assets at amortised cost				
Investments	195	195	124,658	164,017
Cash and Cash Equivalents	-	-	208,855	142,566
Long Term Debtors	1,330	1,330	-	-
Trade Debtors	-	-	18,487	24,210
Total	1,525	1,525	352,000	330,793
Financial liabilities at amortised cost				
Borrowings	(272,011)	(272,005)	(2,581)	(2,575)
Long Term Creditors	(100)	(100)	-	-
Trade Creditors	-	-	(178,601)	(192,225)
Total	(272,111)	(272,105)	(181,182)	(194,800)
Other Liabilities:				
PFI & Finance Lease liabilities	(6,146)	(6,601)	(455)	(400)

Under accounting requirements, the carrying value of the financial instrument is shown in the balance sheet which includes the principal amount borrowed or lent including accrued interest.

The amounts for trade debtors and creditors are the values identified in Notes 16 and 18 to the accounts gross of any allowance for bad debts, see paragraph on Credit Risk below, but excluding outstanding balances to/from Government Departments, debts arising from taxation demands and monies received or paid in advance. Further analysis of PFI and Finance Lease liabilities is given in Notes 14 and 15.

(ii) Reclassifications

No financial instruments have been reclassified between valuation at amortised cost and valuation at fair value during 2021/22 or previous years.

21. Financial Instruments (cont'd)

(iii) Income, Expense, Gains and Losses

	2021/22			2020/21		
	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost £000	Financial Assets: Loans and receivables £000	Total £000	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost £000	Financial Assets: Loans and receivables £000	Total £000
Interest expense	11,250	-	11,250	11,675	-	11,675
Total expense in Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	11,250	-	11,250	11,675	-	11,675
Interest income	-	(290)	(290)	-	(480)	(480)
Total income in Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	-	(290)	(290)	-	(480)	(480)
Net gain/(loss) for the year	11,250	(290)	10,960	11,675	(480)	11,195

21. Financial Instruments (cont'd)

(iv) Fair Values of Assets and Liabilities

Financial liabilities, financial assets represented by loans and receivables and long-term investments are carried in the Balance Sheet at amortised cost. Their fair value can be assessed by calculating the present value of the cash flows that will take place over the remaining term of the instruments, using the following assumptions:

- Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) loans have been valued using the standard new loan rates published by the Debt Management Office (DMO) on 31st March 2022.
- No early repayment or impairment is recognised.
- Where an instrument will mature in the next 12 months the carrying amount is assumed to approximate to fair value.
- The fair value of trade debtors and creditors are taken to be the invoiced amounts.
- The fair value of cash, overdrafts and other cash equivalents is taken to be the carrying value.

£0.1m of the Long Term investment at 31 March 2022 (£0.1m at 31 March 2021) shown in section (i) relates to the Council's investment in the GLE Group matched by the long term creditor of the same amount. Again, as any difference in values would be insignificant the fair value is taken to be the carrying value for both the investment and the liability.

The fair values calculated for the remaining instruments which consist of the Council's borrowings and investments (excluding any Cash or Cash Equivalents) are as follows:

	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000	Carrying Amount £000	Fair Value £000
Financial Liabilities				
<u>Borrowings</u>				
PFI Liabilities	(6,601)	-	(7,001)	-
PWLB Debt	(274,592)	(362,656)	(274,581)	(335,408)
Total	(281,193)	(362,656)	(281,582)	(335,408)
Financial Assets				
<u>Loans and receivables</u>				
Money market loans less than one year	124,658	124,658	164,017	164,017
Money market loans greater than one year	195	195	195	195
Total	124,853	124,853	164,212	164,212

Both PWLB borrowings and money market loans are categorised as Level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

The fair value for financial liabilities is greater than the carrying amount because the Council's portfolio of loans includes a number of fixed rate loans where the interest rate payable is higher than the rates available for similar loans in the market at the balance sheet date. The commitment to pay interest above current market rates increases the amount that the authority would have to pay if the lender requested or agreed to early repayment of the loans. The calculation above uses the PWLB certainty rate as the discount factor, if the premature repayment rate were to be used the fair value would be £362.656m as at 31 March 2022.

The fair value for financial liabilities has been determined by reference to the PWLB redemption rules and prevailing PWLB standard new loan rates at each Balance Sheet date. They include accrued interest.

At 31st March 2022, all money market loans and receivables are repayable within two years. Therefore, the carrying amount is assumed to be approximate fair value; the figure for both years includes accrued interest. The prevailing comparator market rates have been taken from indicative investment rates at the Balance Sheet date. In practice, rates will be determined by the size of the transaction and the counterparty, but it is impractical to use these figures and the difference is not likely to be material.

21. Financial Instruments (cont'd)

Nature and Extent of Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

The Council's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks as follows:

- **credit risk** - the possibility that other parties might fail to pay amounts due to the Council
- **liquidity risk** - the possibility that the Council might not have funds available to meet its commitments to make payments
- **re-financing risk** - the possibility that the Council might be required to renew a financial instrument on maturity at disadvantageous interest rates or terms
- **market risk** - the possibility that financial loss might arise for the Council as a result of changes in such measures as interest rates and stock market movements

Overall Procedures for Managing Risk

The Council's overall risk management procedures focus on the unpredictability of financial markets, and are structured to implement suitable controls to minimise these risks. The procedures for risk management are set out through a legal framework based on the Local Government Act 2003 and the associated regulations. These require the Council to comply with CIPFA's Prudential Code and Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services together with investment guidance issued through the Act. Overall, these procedures require the Council to manage risk in the following ways:

- by formally adopting the requirements of the Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services;
- by the adoption of a Treasury Policy Statement and treasury management clauses within its constitution;
- by approving annually in advance prudential and treasury indicators for the following three years limiting the Council's:
 - overall borrowing;
 - maximum and minimum exposures to fixed and variable rates;
 - maximum and minimum exposures for the maturity structure of its debt;
 - maximum annual exposures to investments maturing beyond a year; and
- by approving an investment strategy for the forthcoming year that sets criteria for both investing and selecting investment counterparties in compliance with the Government guidance.

These are required to be reported and approved at or before the meeting when the Council's Council Tax is set and Revenue Budget approved. These items are reported within the Annual Treasury Strategy, which outlines the detailed approach to managing risk in relation to the Council's financial instrument exposure. Actual performance is also reported after each year, as is a mid-year update.

These policies are implemented by the treasury team. The Council maintains written principles for overall risk management and written policies (Treasury Management Practices – TMPs) covering specific areas such as interest rate risk, credit risk and the investment of surplus cash. These TMPs are a requirement of the Code of Practice and are reviewed regularly.

Credit Risk

Credit risk arises from deposits with banks and financial institutions as well as credit exposure to the Council's customers.

This risk is minimised through the Annual Investment Strategy, which requires that deposits are not made with financial institutions unless they meet identified minimum credit criteria. The Annual Investment Strategy also considers maximum amounts in respect of each financial institution. Deposits are not made with banks and financial institutions unless they meet the minimum requirements of the investment criteria. Additional selection criteria are also applied following the application of the initial credit criteria.

The Council's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its investments in banks cannot be assessed generally as the risk of any institution failing to make interest payments or repay the principal sum will be specific to each individual institution. Recent experience has shown that it is rare for such entities to not be able to meet their commitments. A risk of irrecoverability applies to all of the Council's deposits, but there was no evidence at the 31 March 2022 that this was likely to crystallise.

No breaches of the Council's counterparty criteria occurred during the reporting period and the Council does not expect any losses from non-performance by any counterparty in relation to outstanding deposits or non-investment activity related financial instrument.

21. Financial Instruments (cont'd)

Liquidity Risk

The Council manages its liquidity position through the risk management procedures set out above and through cash flow management procedures required by the Code of Practice on Treasury Management in the Public Services. This seeks to ensure that cash is available when needed.

The Council has ready access to borrowings from the money markets to cover any day-to-day cash flow needs, while the PWLB provides access to longer term funds, it also acts as a lender of last resort to local authorities (although it will not provide funding to an authority whose actions are unlawful). The Council is also required to provide a balanced budget through the Local Government Finance Act 1992, which ensures sufficient monies are raised to cover annual expenditure. Thus there is no significant risk that the Council will be unable to raise finance to meet its commitments under financial instruments.

Exposure to customers is assessed by reference to past experience, age of debt, and stage of recovery process. Details of these debts are reported in Note 16. The sums shown are net of a prudent allowance for their impairment amounting to £15.71 million at 31 March 2022 (£12.81 million at 31 March 2021). The Council does not normally allow credit for its customers.

The past due but not impaired amount can be analysed by age as follows:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Less than three months	17,717	17,017
Three to six months	1,302	436
Six months to one year	1,859	4,486
More than one year	11,356	7,948
	32,234	29,887

Refinancing and Maturity Risk

The Council maintains a significant debt and investment portfolio. While the cash flow procedures above are considered against the refinancing risk procedures, longer term risk to the Council relates to managing the exposure to replacing financial instruments as they mature. This risk relates to both the maturing of longer term financial liabilities and longer term financial assets.

The approved prudential indicator limits for the maturity structure of debt and the limits placed on investments for greater than one year in duration are the key parameters used to address this risk. The Council's treasury and investment strategies address the main risks and the treasury team address the operational risks within the approved parameters. This includes:

- monitoring the maturity profile of financial liabilities and amending the profile through either new borrowing or the rescheduling of the existing debt; and
- monitoring the maturity profile of investments to ensure sufficient liquidity is available for the Council's day to day cash flow needs and spread of longer term investments provide stability of maturities and returns in relation to the longer term cash flow needs.

The maturity analysis of **financial liabilities** is as follows:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Between one and two years	(4,279)	-
Between two and five years	(21,395)	(19,968)
Between five and ten years	(29,952)	(27,100)
More than ten years	(216,106)	(224,664)
Total	(271,732)	(271,732)

21 Financial Instruments (cont'd)

The maturity analysis of **financial assets** is as follows:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Less than one year	124,500	164,000
Between one and two years	195	195
Total	124,695	164,195

The above tables exclude trade payables and receivables and cash and cash equivalents all of which are due to be paid/received within one year.

Market risk

Interest Rate Risk: The Council is exposed to interest rate movements on its borrowings and investments. Movements in interest rates have a complex impact on the Council, depending on how variable and fixed interest rates move across differing financial instrument durations. For instance, a rise in variable and fixed interest rates would have the following effects:

- *Borrowing at variable rates:* the interest expense charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise.
- *Borrowing at fixed rates:* the fair value of the borrowing liability will fall (no impact on revenue balances)
- *Investments at variable rates:* the interest income credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement will rise.
- *Investments at fixed rates:* the fair value of the assets will fall (no impact on revenue balances).

Borrowings are not carried at fair value on the Balance Sheet, so nominal gains and losses on fixed rate borrowings do not impact on the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services or Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure. However, changes in interest payable and receivable on variable rate borrowings and investments is posted to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services and affects the General Fund balance, subject to influences from Government grants. Movements in the fair value of fixed rate investments that have a quoted market price will be reflected in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Council has a number of strategies for managing interest rate risk. The Annual Treasury Strategy draws together the Council's prudential and treasury indicators and its expected treasury operations, including an expectation of interest rate movements. The Strategy sets a treasury indicator that provides maximum and minimum limits for fixed and variable interest rate exposure. The treasury team monitors market and forecast interest rates within the year and adjusts exposure appropriately. For instance, during periods of falling interest rates and where economic circumstances make it favourable, fixed rate investments may be taken for longer periods to secure better long term returns, similarly the drawing of longer term fixed rate borrowing would be postponed.

Price risk: the Council, excluding the Pension Fund, does not generally invest in equities or marketable bonds.

Foreign exchange risk: the Council has no financial assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. It therefore has no exposure to loss arising from movement in exchange rates.

22a. Cash Flow Statement - Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Adjustment for items included elsewhere in the Cash Flow Statement:		
Capital Grants	(26,681)	(55,171)
Adjustment for 'non-cash' items included in the Income and Expenditure Statement:		
Depreciation and Amortisation of non-current assets	37,183	36,459
Impairments and revaluations	(15,228)	(49,711)
Value of non-current assets derecognised on disposal	23,309	3,533
Assets transferred to/(from) Assets Held for Sale	-	13,780
Net adjustment made in respect of IAS 19 (Pensions)	43,068	22,727
Amortisation of Premia and Discounts	5	5
Movement in non-cash assets and liabilities:		
(Increase)/decrease in short-term Debtors*	8,722	10,195
add/less: (Increase)/decrease in Capital Debtors	(2,849)	(58)
(Increase)/decrease in Long-term Debtors	(5,979)	(7,193)
Increase/(decrease) in short-term Creditors*	10,354	(6,034)
add/less: Increase/(decrease) in Capital Creditors	6,153	1,783
Assets transferred to 'Assets Held for Sale'	-	(13,229)
(Increase)/decrease in Inventories	(29)	10
Increase/(decrease) in Provisions	(98)	(7,472)
Increase/(decrease) in Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance	9,761	(21,004)
Adjustments to net surplus or deficit on the provision of services for non-cash movements	87,691	(71,380)

*Excluding movements in the Collection Fund Debtors/Creditors with precepting authorities and the short-term element of Finance Leases and PFI's which are included on the face of the cashflow statement.

22b. Cash Flow Statement - Operating Activities

The cash inflows/(outflows) for operating activities include the following:

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Interest Received	423	(103)
Interest Paid	(11,241)	(11,804)

22c. Reconciliation of Liabilities Arising from Financing Activities

	Opening Balance	Cash (Inflow)/ Outflow	Other Non-Cash changes	Closing Balance
	£000	£000	£000	£000
2021/22				
Long-Term Borrowing	(272,006)	-	(5)	(272,011)
Short-Term Borrowing	(2,576)	-	(6)	(2,582)
Lease Liabilities	-	-	-	-
PFI	(7,001)	400	-	(6,601)
Total	(281,583)	400	(11)	(281,194)
2020/21				
Long-Term Borrowing	(232,001)	(40,000)	(5)	(272,006)
Short-Term Borrowing	(13,843)	11,410	(143)	(2,576)
Lease Liabilities	(20)	20	-	-
PFI	(7,352)	351	-	(7,001)
Total	(253,216)	(28,219)	(148)	(281,583)

23. Agency Services

The Council acts as agent under agreements with various bodies and receives financial reimbursement for the costs of such services from the bodies concerned. In some cases the Council makes a small surplus or deficit on these agreements through commission or reimbursement of costs. These surpluses or deficits are included within the relative service lines in the CIES. Bodies with whom the Council has these agency agreements include Thames Water, Transport for London, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Business Improvement Districts.

24. Members' Allowances

The Council paid the following amounts to members of the Council during the year.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Members' Allowances	835	844

25. Officers' Remuneration

This note shows the remuneration as paid through the Council's payroll to the Council's Chief Executive, Statutory Chief Officers, members of the Strategic Leadership Team (i.e. those reporting to the Chief Executive) and employees with salaries over £150,000.

		Notes	FY	Salary, Fees and Allowances	Bonuses	Expenses Allowances	Compensation for Loss of Office	Pension Contribution	Total
Role	In Post			£	£	£	£	£	£
Chief Executive	Kim Smith		2021/22	211,657	-	-	-	36,193	247,850
			2020/21	200,363	-	-	-	36,448	236,811
Strategic Director of Economy	Jonathan Pickstone	1	2021/22	83,274	-	-	-	14,240	97,514
	Joanne Rowlands		2020/21	71,701	-	-	-	9,308	81,009
Strategic Director of Social Care	Lisa Redfern		2021/22	173,998	-	-	-	31,129	205,127
			2020/21	162,605	-	-	-	27,805	190,410
Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer)	Emily Hill		2021/22	141,840	-	-	-	24,255	166,095
			2020/21	131,336	-	-	-	24,728	156,064
Strategic Director of Environment	Sharon Lea	2	2021/22	176,610	-	-	-	-	176,610
			2020/21	58,000	-	-	-	-	58,000
Director of Children's Services	Jacqui McShannon		2021/22	150,455	-	-	-	25,859	176,314
			2020/21	148,988	-	-	-	25,477	174,465
Director of Resources	Rhian Davies		2021/22	141,840	-	-	-	24,255	166,095
			2020/21	138,499	-	-	-	26,173	164,672

Notes

1	Joanne Rowlands left the Council in May 2020 and the amount disclosed includes accrued leave. The role was occupied on an interim basis until the appointment of Jonathan Pickstone in August 2021.
2	Sharon Lea was in post on an interim basis until Nov 2020, and thereafter became a permanent LBHF employee. The payroll costs are shown in the table from Nov 2020. Sharon Lea was appointed acting Chief Executive from 25th Feb 2022.

25. Officers' Remuneration (cont'd)

The Council's other employees receiving more than £50,000 remuneration for the year (excluding employer's pension contributions and including redundancy payments) were paid the following amounts. These numbers do not include senior employees shown in the previous table:

Remuneration Band	2021/22		2020/21	
	Number of Employees		Number of Employees	
£160,000 - £164,999	1		0	
£140,000 - £144,999	1		0	
£135,000 - £139,999	4		4	
£130,000 - £134,999	1		0	
£125,000 - £129,999	0		1	
£120,000 - £124,999	3		2	
£115,000 - £119,999	2		4	
£110,000 - £114,999	4		2	
£105,000 - £109,999	2		4	
£100,000 - £104,999	14		8	
£95,000 - £99,999	11		10	
£90,000 - £94,999	17		16	
£85,000 - £89,999	21		17	
£80,000 - £84,999	15		22	
£75,000 - £79,999	15		12	
£70,000 - £74,999	32		30	
£65,000 - £69,999	45		40	
£60,000 - £64,999	83		63	
£55,000 - £59,999	155		161	
£50,000 - £54,999	206		192	
Total	632		588	

Of the 632 employees listed above in 2021/22, 155 (25%) were employees where pay decisions rest with the School Governing Body and not the Council. The corresponding figure for 2020/21 was 183 (31%). Remuneration bands where there are nil employees in both years are excluded from the above table (e.g. £145,000 - £149,999).

Exit Packages

The number of exit packages with total cost per band and total cost of the compulsory and other departures are set out in the table below:

Exit package cost band (including special payments)	Number of compulsory redundancies		Number of other departures agreed		Total number of packages by cost band		Total cost of exit packages in each band	
	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21
£0 - £20,000	44	24	22	16	66	40	470,259	411,549
£20,001 - £40,000	19	12	11	3	30	15	827,055	387,237
£40,001 - £60,000	5	3	2	-	7	3	322,112	157,052
£60,001 - £80,000	1	4	1	2	2	6	137,404	430,004
£80,001 - £100,000	2	-	3	1	5	1	445,133	83,505
£100,001 - £150,000	2	5	1	1	3	6	387,035	690,435
£150,001 - £200,000	1	2	1	1	2	3	309,721	512,721
£200,001 - £250,000	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	212,059
Total	74	51	41	24	115	75	2,898,719	2,884,562

This includes exit packages agreed by School Governing Bodies. Exit packages include the accrued cost of added years (the pension strain). These costs are not paid to individuals but reflect the cost to the Council of the employee retiring early, without actuarial reduction of their pension.

26. Pension Schemes Accounted for as Defined Contribution Schemes

Teachers employed by the Council are members of the Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education. The Scheme provides teachers with specified benefits upon their retirement, and the Council contributes towards the costs by making contributions based on a percentage of members' pensionable salaries.

The Scheme is technically a defined benefit scheme. However, the Scheme is unfunded and the Department for Education uses a notional fund as the basis for calculating the employers' contribution rate paid by local authorities. The Council is not able to identify its share of underlying financial position and performance of the Scheme with sufficient reliability for accounting purposes. For the purposes of this Statement of Accounts, it is therefore accounted for on the same basis as a defined contribution scheme.

In 2021/22, the Council paid £5.47 million to Teachers' Pensions in respect of teachers' retirement benefits, representing 23.68% of pensionable pay. The figures for 2020/21 were £5.73 million and 23.68%. There were no contributions remaining payable at the year-end.

The Council is responsible for the costs of any additional benefits awarded upon early retirement outside of the terms of the teachers' scheme. During 2021/22 the costs arising from additional benefits amounted to £352.8k (2020/21: £323.7k).

27. Defined Benefit Schemes

Participation in Pension Schemes

As part of the terms and conditions of employment of its officers, the Council makes contributions towards the cost of post-employment benefits. Although these benefits will not actually be payable until employees retire, the Council has a commitment to make the payments that needs to be disclosed at the time that employees earn their future entitlement.

The Council participates in the following post-employment schemes:

- The Local Government Pension Scheme administered locally by London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (LBHF LGPS).
- The Local Government Pension Scheme administered by London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA LGPS).

The schemes are funded defined benefit salary schemes, meaning that the Council and employees pay contributions into a fund, calculated at a level intended to balance the pensions liabilities with investment assets. The scheme to 31 March 2014 provided benefits based on final salary and length of service on retirement. Changes to the LGPS came into effect on 1 April 2014 and any benefits accrued from this date will be based on career average revalued salary, with various protections in place for those members in the scheme before the changes took effect.

In general, participating in a defined benefit pension scheme means that the Council is exposed to a number of risks:

- Investment risk. The Fund holds investments in asset classes, such as equities, which have volatile market values and while these assets are expected to provide real returns over the long-term, the short-term volatility can cause additional funding to be required if a deficit emerges.
- Interest rate risk. The Fund's liabilities are assessed using market yields on high quality corporate bonds to discount the liabilities. As the Fund holds assets such as equities the value of the assets and liabilities may not move in the same way.
- Inflation risk. All of the benefits under the Fund are linked to inflation and so deficits may emerge to the extent that the assets are not linked to inflation.
- Longevity risk. In the event that the members live longer than assumed a deficit will emerge in the Fund. There are also other demographic risks.

In addition, as many unrelated employers participate in the Pension Funds, there is an orphan risk where employers leave the Fund but with insufficient assets to cover their pension obligations so that the difference may fall on the remaining employers. All of the risks above may also benefit the Council e.g. higher than expected investment returns.

Discretionary post-retirement benefits on early retirement are an unfunded defined benefit arrangement, under which liabilities are recognised when awards are made. There are no plan assets built up to meet these pension liabilities, and cash has to be generated to meet actual pension payments when they eventually fall due.

27. Defined Benefit Schemes (cont'd)

The Council recognises the cost of retirement benefits in the reported cost of services when they are earned by employees, rather than when the benefits are eventually paid as pensions. However, the charge the Council is required to make against council tax is based on the cash payable in the year, so the real cost of post-employment/ retirement benefits is reversed out of the General Fund via the Movement in Reserves Statement. The following transactions have been made in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the General Fund Balance via the Movement in Reserves Statement during the year.

	LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement				
<i>Cost of Services:</i>				
• current service costs	52,035	32,500	123	110
• past service costs including curtailments	23	2,808	-	-
• (gain)/ loss from settlements	-	(1,945)	-	-
• administration expenses	-	246	62	56
• unfunded pension payments	(1,632)	(2,054)	(27)	(27)
• employer's pension contributions adjustment	1,632		27	
<i>Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure:</i>				
• net interest expense / (income)	13,443	11,455	(2)	(38)
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services	65,501	43,010	183	101
<i>Other Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement</i>				
<i>Remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability</i>				
• Return on plan assets (excluding the amount included in the net interest expense)	(85,141)	(168,825)	(6,042)	(5,589)
• Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in demographic assumptions	(30,287)	(15,715)	-	(441)
• Actuarial gains and losses arising on changes in financial assumptions	(84,447)	340,613	(1,044)	5,976
• Experience loss/ (gain) on defined benefit obligation	(23,975)	(19,352)	100	(631)
• Impact of asset ceiling			6,952	680
Total Post Employment Benefit Charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement	(223,850)	179,731	(34)	96
Movement in Reserves Statement				
• reversal of net charges made to the Surplus or Deficit for the Provision of Services for post employment benefits in accordance with the Code	(65,501)	(43,010)	(183)	(101)
<i>Actual amount charged against the General Fund Balance for pensions in the year:</i>				
• employers' contributions payable to scheme	20,853	20,313	63	71

27. Defined Benefit Schemes (cont'd)

Assets and Liabilities in Relation to Post-Employment Benefits

Reconciliation of present value of the scheme liabilities (defined benefit obligation):

	LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Opening balance 1 April	1,725,464	1,388,237	45,224	41,469
Current service cost	52,035	32,500	123	110
Interest cost	34,661	32,232	838	928
Remeasurement (gains) and losses:				
- Change in financial assumptions	(84,447)	340,613	(1,044)	5,976
- Change in demographic assumptions	(30,287)	(15,715)	-	(441)
- Experience	27,690	(19,352)	100	(631)
Liabilities assumed/ (extinguished) on settlements	-	(1,342)	-	-
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(40,059)	(39,139)	(2,256)	(2,182)
Past service costs, including curtailments	23	2,808	-	-
Contributions by Scheme participants	7,329	6,676	20	22
Unfunded pension payments	(1,632)	(2,054)	(27)	(27)
Closing balance at 31 March	1,690,777	1,725,464	42,978	45,224

Reconciliation of fair value of the scheme (plan) assets:

	LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Opening balance 1 April	1,067,550	889,741	47,439	43,029
Interest on assets	21,218	10,837	881	966
Remeasurement gain/ (loss):				
- Return on assets less interest	85,141	186,331	6,042	5,589
- Experience	51,665	-	-	-
Administration expenses	-	(7,812)	(62)	(56)
Contributions by employer including unfunded	22,485	22,367	90	98
Contributions by scheme participants	7,329	6,676	20	22
Estimated benefits paid plus unfunded net of transfers in	(41,691)	(41,193)	(2,283)	(2,209)
Settlement prices received/ (paid)	-	603	-	-
Closing balance at 31 March	1,213,697	1,067,550	52,127	47,439

Pension Assets and Liabilities Recognised in the Balance Sheet

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
<i>Present Value of Liabilities</i>		
LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme (Funded)	1,669,349	1,696,419
LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme (Unfunded)	21,428	29,045
LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme (Funded)	42,853	45,072
LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme (Unfunded)	125	152
<i>Fair Value of Assets</i>		
LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme	(1,213,697)	(1,067,550)
LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	(52,127)	(47,439)
<i>Impact of Asset Ceiling</i>		
LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		
LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	9,147	2,154
<i>Net liability arising from defined benefit obligation</i>		
LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme	477,080	657,914
LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	(2)	(61)
Total	477,078	657,853

27. Defined Benefit Schemes (cont'd)

The liabilities show the underlying commitments that the Council has in the long run to pay post-employment (retirement) benefits. The total net liability of £477.1m has a substantial impact on the net worth of the Council as recorded in the Balance Sheet. However, statutory arrangements for funding the deficit mean that the financial position of the Council remains healthy:

- the deficits on both local government schemes will be made good by increased contributions over the remaining working life of employees (i.e. before payments fall due), as assessed by the scheme actuary.
- finance is only required to be raised to cover discretionary benefits when pensions are actually paid.

Local Government Pension Scheme Assets

The return on the Funds (on a bid value to bid value basis) for the year 31 March 2022 is estimated to be 10.0% for LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme and 14.92% for LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme. The actual return on Fund assets over the year may be different. The asset allocations are set out below:

	LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		31 March 2021	
	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	£000	%	£000	%
Equities	88,493	7%	488,433	46%
Investment Funds and Unit Trusts	1,012,252	83%	-	-
Cash Plus Funds	-	-	410,690	38%
Cash	32,202	3%	64,304	6%
Property	80,750	7%	104,123	10%
Total	1,213,697	100%	1,067,550	100%

	LPFA Local Government Pensions Scheme		31 March 2021	
	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	£000	%	£000	%
Equities	28,942	56%	25,774	54%
Target Return Portfolio	11,453	22%	11,166	24%
Infrastructure	5,329	10%	4,020	8%
Property	4,668	9%	4,317	9%
Cash	1,735	3%	2,162	5%
Total	52,127	100%	47,439	100%

Basis for Estimating Assets and Liabilities

Liabilities have been assessed on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method, an estimate of the pensions that will be payable in future years dependent on assumptions about mortality rates, salary levels, etc. The LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme and LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme have been assessed by Hymans Robertson LLP and Barnett Waddingham respectively, independent firms of actuaries, with estimates being based on the latest full valuation of the schemes as at 31 March 2022. The principal assumptions used by the actuaries have been:

	LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	
	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21
Mortality Assumptions				
Life expectancy from age 65 - retiring today				
Men	22.1	21.6	21.1	21.1
Women	24.7	24.3	24.0	24.0
Life expectancy from age 65 - retiring in 20 years				
Men	23.2	22.9	22.3	22.2
Women	26.1	25.7	25.9	25.8
Financial Assumptions				
Rate of Inflation - CPI	3.20%	2.80%	3.40%	2.85%
Rate of Increase in Salaries	4.20%	3.80%	4.40%	3.85%
Rate of Increase in Pensions*	3.20%	2.80%	3.40%	2.85%
Discount Rate	2.70%	2.00%	2.6%	1.90%

*Pension increases are linked to CPI inflation, therefore the impact analysis is equivalent.

27. Defined Benefit Schemes (cont'd)

These assumptions are set with reference to market conditions at 31 March 2022.

The estimation of the defined benefit obligations is sensitive to the actuarial assumptions set out in the table above. The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period and assumes when each assumption analysed changes, all the other assumptions remain constant. The projected service costs for 2022/23 are £47.3m (LBHF) and £0.116m (LPFA).

	Impact on the Defined Benefit Obligation of the Scheme			
	LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme		LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme	
	Increase in Assumption £000	Decrease in Assumption £000	Increase in Assumption £000	Decrease in Assumption £000
Adjustment to:				
Discount Rate (+/-0.1%)		27,917		529
Long term salary increase (+/-0.1%)	2,120		9	
Pension increases & deferred revaluation* (+/-0.1%)	25,591		515	
Mortality age rating assumption (+/- 1 year)	67,631		3,091	

*Pension increases are linked to CPI inflation, therefore the impact analysis is equivalent.

Impact on the Council's Cash Flows

Contributions are set every 3 years as a result of the actuarial valuation of the Fund required by Regulations. The last actuarial valuation of the Fund was carried out as at 31 March 2022 and will set contributions for the period from 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026. There are no minimum funding requirements in the LGPS but the contributions are generally set to target a level of funding of 100% using the actuarial valuation assumptions. LBHF have agreed a strategy with the scheme's actuary to achieve a funding level of 100% over a 19-year period.

The total contributions expected to be made by the Council in the year to 31 March 2023 are £24.145m to the LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme. The LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme was certified to pay a minimum of 24.5% employer pension contributions and total contributions are expected to be immaterial.

The actuary's estimate of the duration of the Employer's liabilities is 19 years for LBHF Local Government Pension Scheme and 13 years for LPFA Local Government Pension Scheme.

28. External Audit Costs

The Council has incurred the following costs in relation to the audit of the Statement of Accounts, certification of grant claims and statutory inspections provided by the Council's external auditors:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Fees payable to the External Auditor with regard to external audit services carried out by the appointed auditor for the year	213	200
Additional fee relating to the previous year's audit work	21	-
Fees payable to External Audit for the certification of grant claims and returns for the year	51	56
Non-Audit Services	12	13
Total	297	269

Non-Audit Services consists of a CFO Insights subscription of £12,500.

29. Dedicated Schools Grant

The Council's expenditure on schools is funded primarily by grant monies provided by the Department for Education, the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). An element of DSG is recouped by the Department to fund academy schools in the Council's area. DSG is ringfenced and can only be applied to meet expenditure properly included in the Schools Budget, as defined in the School Finance (England) Regulations 2011. The Schools Budget includes elements for a range of educational services provided on an authority-wide basis and for the Individual Schools Budget, which is divided into a budget share for each maintained school.

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2021/22 are as follows:

	Central Expenditure £000	Individual Schools Budget £000	Total £000
Final DSG for 2021/22 before academy and high needs recoupment			157,150
Less: Academy and high needs figure recouped for 2021/22			74,967
Total DSG after academy and high needs recoupment for 2021/22			82,183
Plus: Brought forward from 2020/21			-
Less: Carry-forward to 2022/23 agreed in advance			-
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2021/22	8,447	73,736	82,183
In year adjustments	4,556	(501)	4,055
Final budget distribution for 2021/22	13,003	73,235	86,238
Less: Actual central expenditure	7,396		7,396
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools		76,227	76,227
Plus: Local authority contribution for 2021/22		370	370
In Year Carry-forward to 2022/23	5,607	(2,622)	2,985
Plus/Minus: Carry-forward to 2022/23 agreed in advance			-
Carry-forward to 2022/23			2,985
DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2020/21			(14,505)
Addition to DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2021/22			-
Total of DSG unusable reserve at the end of 2021/22			(14,505)
Net DSG position at the end of 2021/22			(11,520)

Details of the deployment of DSG receivable for 2020/21 are as follows:

	Central Expenditure £000	Individual Schools Budget £000	Total £000
Final DSG for 2020/21 before Academy Recoupment			149,102
Academy figure recouped for 2020/21			(65,919)
Total DSG after Academy recoupment for 2020/21			83,183
Plus: Brought forward from 2019/20			(19,120)
Less: Carry-forward to 2020/21 agreed in advance			19,120
Agreed initial budgeted distribution in 2020/21	9,025	74,157	83,183
In year adjustments		6,521	6,521
Final budgeted distribution for 2020/21	9,025	80,678	89,704
Less: Actual central expenditure	(8,268)		(8,269)
Less: Actual ISB deployed to schools		(76,821)	(76,821)
Plus Local authority contribution for 2020/21 (Drawdown from)/Contribution to DSG Reserve	757	3,857	4,614
Early Years Funding Reserve			-
Carry Forward to 2021/22			(14,505)

The DSG has a cumulative deficit of £11.5 million. The Schools & Early years Block of £0.3m has been accounted for as a reserve and the cumulative DSG deficit of £11.8m has been accounted for as an unusable reserve. Parliament has approved the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 in November 2020 which amends the 2003 Regulations by establishing new accounting practices in relation to the treatment of local authorities' schools budget deficits which must now be recorded in a separate account established solely for the purpose of recording deficits in unusable reserves. As the statutory requirement is time limited, it continues to set aside reserves to match the High Needs Block deficit until such time as the cumulative deficit is eliminated.

30. Grant Income

The Council credited the following grants, contributions and donations to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in 2021/22:

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Credited to Taxation and Non Specific Grant Income		
S31 Grant - Business Rates Retention Scheme Relief	(26,004)	(43,212)
Revenue Support Grant	(17,506)	(17,410)
Adult Social Care Support Grant	(7,994)	(5,956)
New Homes Bonus	(5,274)	(6,864)
Other Non-ringfenced grants	(4,464)	(3,357)
Capital grants - S106	(8,743)	(37,351)
Capital grants - Affordable Homes Programme	(2,069)	-
Capital grants - Schools Condition Allocations	(1,473)	(1,234)
Capital grants - Right to Buy Ringfenced	(1,273)	-
Capital grants - Transport for London	(1,038)	(1,294)
Capital grants - Other	(2,342)	(4,431)
COVID-19 - Support grant	(6,188)	(11,744)
COVID-19 - Sales, Fees & Charges Support grant	(1,511)	(13,108)
COVID-19 - Council Tax Hardship grant	(1,355)	(1,037)
COVID-19 - Other grants	(644)	(3,375)
Total	(87,878)	(150,373)
Credited to Services		
Housing & Council Tax Benefit Subsidy	(92,491)	(97,143)
Dedicated Schools Grant	(86,238)	(89,704)
Public Health Grant	(22,139)	(21,879)
Developer Contributions (inc Section 106)	(15,101)	(32,718)
Improved Better Care Fund	(9,183)	(8,814)
Post 16 (EFA 16-19 Grant)	(4,844)	(5,388)
Homelessness Prevention-Flexible Homelessness Support Grant	(3,774)	(2,660)
Pupil Premium Grant	(3,458)	(3,716)
Adult Learning	(2,684)	(2,546)
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (U18)	(2,392)	(2,121)
Disabled Facilities Grant	(1,445)	(1,555)
PFI Grants	(1,429)	(1,429)
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children Leaving Care	(1,218)	(913)
TFL Funding-Revenue	(1,120)	(263)
Rough Sleeping Initiatives Grant	(1,035)	(771)
Other grants and contributions	(12,830)	(11,577)
COVID-19 - Restart Grant-Non Essential Retail	(15,833)	-
COVID-19 - Additional Restrictions Grant (Top-Up funding)	(2,213)	-
COVID-19 - Omicron Leisure and Hospitality Grant	(1,863)	-
COVID-19 - Adult Social Care Workforce Capacity Fund	(1,770)	(456)
COVID-19 - Contain Outbreak Management Fund grant	(1,561)	(4,318)
COVID-19 - Demand Led for Community testing grant	(1,313)	(1,180)
COVID-19 - Household Support Fund	(1,306)	-
COVID-19 - Other grants	(6,613)	(13,562)
Total	(293,853)	(302,713)

30. Grant Income (cont'd)

The Council has received a number of grants, contributions and donations that have yet to be recognised as income as they have conditions attached to them that will require the monies or property to be returned to the giver. The balances at the year-end are:

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance (Current)		
COVID-19 - Restart Grant	(2,702)	-
Mental Health Hospital Discharge and Admission Avoidance Grant	(1,399)	-
COVID-19 - Omicron Leisure and Hospitality Grant	(639)	-
Improved Better Care Fund Grant	(550)	-
COVID-19 - Other grants	(683)	(2,809)
Other revenue grants	(4,401)	(3,716)
Total	(10,374)	(6,525)

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Grants and Contributions Receipts in Advance (Non-Current)		
Developer contributions (inc. Section 106)	(7,994)	(13,008)
Right to Buy Ringfenced Grant	(7,204)	-
High Needs Provision Grant	(2,330)	-
Electric Vehicle Charging Points Grant	(2,214)	-
TfL	(1,117)	(1,354)
COVID-19 - Other grants	-	(91)
Other capital grants	(2,353)	(2,846)
Total	(23,212)	(17,299)

31. Related Parties

The Council is required to disclose material transactions with related parties. These are bodies or individuals that have the potential to control or influence the council or to be controlled or influenced by the council.

The related party transactions with our subsidiaries have been included in Note 33.

Central Government

Central government has effective control over the general operations of the Council. It is responsible for providing the statutory framework within which the Council operates and provides the majority of its funding.

Grants received from government departments are set out in Note 30.

Members

Members of the Council have direct control over the Council's financial and operating policies. The total of members' allowances paid in 2021/22 is shown in Note 24.

Information regarding reportable transactions has been collated by requiring Members and Chief Officers to declare any related party transactions. A review was also carried out of the Council's Register of Declarations of Interests and of the Register of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interests of Councillors drawn up from declarations made at Committee and other meetings.

The related party transactions for 2021/22 are set out below.

31. Related Parties (cont'd)

Name of body	2021/22				
	Loan	Expenditure	Income	Income outstanding to LBHF (LBHF debtor balance)	Balance outstanding (LBHF creditor balance)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Action on Disability	-	422	-	-	-
Hammersmith and Fulham Citizen Advice Bureau	-	614	-	-	-
Hammersmith and Fulham Community Law Centre	-	102	(20)	5	-
Hammersmith and Fulham Volunteer Centre	-	142	-	1	-
London Councils	-	1,296	(60)	5	-
Lytic Hammersmith	-	217	-	-	(14)
LBHF Family Support Services Ltd	-	239	-	-	-
Sands End Arts and Community Centre	-	99	(27)	19	-
Western Riverside Waste Authority	-	10,298	-	-	-
West King Street Renewal LLP	-	-	-	13,172	-
Total	-	13,429	(107)	13,202	(14)

Name of body	2020/21				
	Loan	Expenditure	Income	Income outstanding to LBHF (LBHF debtor balance)	Balance outstanding (LBHF creditor balance)
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Action on Disability	-	343	(1)	-	-
Hammersmith and Fulham Citizen Advice Bureau	-	656	-	-	-
Hammersmith and Fulham Community Law Centre	-	115	-	-	-
Hammersmith and Fulham Volunteer Centre	-	142	(1)	2	-
London Councils	-	699	(60)	5	-
Lytic Hammersmith	-	230	-	-	-
LBHF Family Support Services Ltd	-	2,221	-	-	-
Sands End Arts and Community Centre	-	12	(25)	37	-
Western Riverside Waste Authority	-	9,944	-	-	-
West King Street Renewal LLP	-	-	-	7,193	-
Total	-	14,362	(87)	7,237	-

In addition to the above, many Members have relationships or hold positions with other public bodies and voluntary organisations with which the Council does not have a financially material relationship, but with which the Council has a financial or influential relationship. These include schools.

Senior officers are also asked to disclose their related party transactions. Based on these returns, West King Street Renewal LLP is included above.

Pension Fund

The Council is the administering authority of the Pension Fund. A detailed summary of the Pension Fund Accounts is included within this Statement of Accounts in the Supplementary Financial Statements section.

Wormwood Scrubs

The Mayor and Burgesses of the Council are the Trustees of the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust. The Trust's objective is to hold Wormwood Scrubs Open Space "upon trust for the perpetual use thereof the inhabitants of the Metropolis for exercise and recreation" as defined by the Wormwood Scrubs Act of 1879. Income and expenditure is detailed in Note 36.

Interest in Companies

The Council has interest in a number of companies; Lyric Theatre Hammersmith Limited, Ltd, Housing Joint Ventures Limited, LBHF Ventures Limited, LBHF Joint Ventures Limited, LBHF Family Support Services Limited, H&F Housing Developments Ltd and West King Street Renewal LLP. Full details are disclosed in Note 33.

Provision of key management personnel

Amounts were incurred by the Council for payments to employment agencies for the services of key management personnel. For the post of Strategic Director of Economy department, the cost was £52k (from April to July 2021).

32. Better Care Fund Pooled Budget

The Authority has entered into a pooled budget arrangement with The Hammersmith and Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group for the provision of Adult Social Care services to older people, people with physical or learning disabilities, people with mental health problems and services to safeguard adults.

The aim is to meet the needs of people living in the area of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham. Expenditure funded from this budget includes the provision of care in residential settings, community services enabling people to remain in their own homes and a community independence service which supports the reablement of residents.

The arrangement is made in accordance with Section 75 of the National Health Service Act 2006 and any surplus or deficit generated will be the responsibility of the respective partner to whom it is attributed.

The pooled budget includes all income and expenditure relating to the Better Care Fund, whether funded by the local authority or the health service.

It is hosted by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham, however, not all transactions pass through the Borough's accounting system.

The pooled budget for Joint Equipment has been absorbed within the Better Care Fund.

The following table summarises the position for 2021/22:

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Contributions to the Pooled Budget:		
London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham	(18,150)	(17,875)
Hammersmith and Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group	(32,259)	(31,135)
Total Contributions	(50,409)	(49,010)
Expenditure Met by the Pooled Budget:		
Costs relating to the reablement of residents	5,758	5,706
Costs relating to care provided in residential settings or in community settings	42,960	41,595
Support Services and programme management relating to the BCF	2,108	2,088
Total Expenditure	50,826	49,389
Net (surplus)/deficit arising on the pooled budget in the year	417	379
Net (surplus)/deficit split by:		
Share of the net (surplus)/deficit due to the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham (Includes capital resources)	191	81
Share of the net (surplus)/deficit due to the Hammersmith & Fulham Clinical Commissioning Group	225	298

33. Interest in Companies

The Council has an involvement with a number of associated companies which are set out below. The assets, liabilities and reserves, income, expenditure and cashflows of these companies are not included in the Council's accounts as the Council's interest is not considered to be material and so does not justify such consolidation. Information is provided as to the general purpose of the company, its financial position, and any other material financial issues affecting the Council.

(i) Lyric Theatre Hammersmith Limited

This is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity. Its main business is the promotion and encouragement of lively arts and theatre management. The Council supplies funding under a funding agreement to enable the company to carry out its charitable objectives. The revenue contributions by the Council were £217k in 2021/22. The latest audited accounts available, those relating to 2020/21, show net assets of £10,948k (£10,204k in 2019/20) and net income on its activities in that year of £744k (net loss of £603k in 2019/20). The Funding agreement also provides the financial arrangements and responsibilities of the Council and Theatre respectively as a consequence of the Company occupying its premises on the basis of a sub under lease from the Council. Copies of the accounts may be obtained from the Executive Director, Lyric Theatre, King Street, London W6 0QL.

33. Interest in Companies (cont'd)

(ii) Housing Joint Ventures

HFS Developments LLP is a joint venture between the Council (50%) and Stanhope Plc (50%) which was incorporated on 27 March 2014.

HFS Development 2 Limited is a joint venture between the Council (50%) and Stanhope Plc (50%) which was incorporated on 19 July 2016. The latest audited accounts available, those relating to 2020/21 show loss for the period amounted to £155k (loss £119 in 2019/20).

(iii) LBHF Ventures Limited

LBHF Ventures Limited is a company wholly owned by the Council which was incorporated 9 June 2016. The Council invested £95,000, by way of share capital in LBHF Ventures Limited.

(iv) LBHF Joint Ventures Limited

LBHF Joint Ventures Limited is a Limited Company owned 51% of shares by the Council and owned 49% of shares by Intrum Uk Limited, which was incorporated on 9 June 2017.

(v) LBHF Family Support Services Limited

LBHF Family Support Services Limited is a Limited Company wholly owned by the Council, which was incorporated on 18 August 2017. The revenue contributions by the Council were £239k in 2021/22. The latest full year Accounts available, those relating to 2020/21, show net liability worth £82.1k and a net gain for the period of £82.1k.

(vi) West King Street Renewal LLP

West King Street Renewal LLP was incorporated in March 2020 as a joint venture between the Council and A2 Dominion Developments Limited. As at 31st March 2022, the Council has £15,484k invested in the company and has a long-term debtor with the LLP of £13,172k relating to the Council's purchase of the Civic Campus commercial units, currently under development.

(vii) H&F Housing Developments Limited

H&F Housing Developments Limited is a limited company wholly owned by the Council. The company acts as 'nominee' company holding certain leases for the Council in trust (with the Council remaining ultimate beneficial owner via a trust deed).

34. Contingent Assets and Contingent Liabilities

The council does not have any material contingent assets or liabilities.

35. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Statement of Accounts contains estimated figures that are based on assumptions made by the Council about the future or that are otherwise uncertain. Estimates are made taking into account historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, because balances cannot be determined with certainty, actual results could be materially different from the assumptions and estimates.

The items in the Council's Balance Sheet at 31 March 2022 for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment in the forthcoming financial year are as follows:

35. Assumptions Made About the Future and Other Major Sources of Estimation Uncertainty (cont'd)

Item	Uncertainties	Effect if Actual Results Differ from Assumptions
Non Current Assets subject to valuations and Investment Properties	Asset valuations are periodically reviewed to ensure that the Council does not materially misstate its non-current assets and investment properties. However, the valuation of property will inevitably be an estimate and property values can be volatile. Should evidence emerge in 2022/23 that causes the Council to amend these estimates, the estimated fair value of its property and dwellings could change.	A reduction in estimated valuations would result in reductions to the Revaluation Reserve and / or a loss recorded as appropriate in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES). For example, a 10 per cent reduction in the net book value of Council Dwellings (total NBV £1.474 billion) would result in a reduction of £147.4 million (Revaluation Reserve of £37.5 million and a £109.9 million charge to the CIES). Conversely, an increase in value would result in increases to the Revaluation Reserve and / or reversals of previous negative revaluations to the CIES and / or gains being recorded as appropriate in the CIES. Depreciation charges for operational buildings will change in direct proportion to the change in estimated fair value. The net book value of non-current assets subject to potential revaluation is £1.93 billion.
Pensions Liability	"Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on a number of complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on pension fund assets. Total net liability for the year ended 31 March 2022 is £528m. A firm of consulting actuaries is engaged to provide the Council with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied. There is further uncertainty arising from a legal challenge to the Government's transitional arrangements following the public sector pension reforms in 2015.	For instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.1% increase in the discount rate assumption would result in a decrease in pension liability of £28m • 0.1% increase in assumed earnings would increase the value of the liabilities by approximately £4m • 0.1% increase in pension increases would increase the liability by about £23m • A one-year increase in life expectancy would increase the liability by about £68m

36. Trust Funds

The Mayor and Burgesses of the Council are the Trustees of the Wormwood Scrubs Charitable Trust. The Trust's objective is to hold Wormwood Scrubs Open Space "upon trust for the perpetual use thereof the inhabitants of the Metropolis for exercise and recreation" as defined by the Wormwood Scrubs Act of 1879. The table below shows the operating costs and income of the Trust:

	2021/22	2020/21 (restated)
	£000	£000
Balance at 1st April	(5,938)	(5,889)
Income	(1,170)	(1,002)
Sub total	(7,108)	(6,891)
Less:		
Expenditure and Transfers	1,077	953
Balance at 31 March	(6,031)	(5,938)

37. Events after the Reporting Period

The Statement of Accounts have been prepared up to 31 March 2022. There are no material adjusting events after the balance sheet date to report.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies

i. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The Council is required to prepare an annual Statement of Accounts by the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, which require the Statement of Accounts to be prepared in accordance with proper accounting practices. These practices primarily comprise the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 (the Code) supported by International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS).

The Statement of Accounts summarises the Council's transactions for the 2021/22 financial year and its position at the year-end of 31 March 2022.

The accounting convention adopted in the Statement of Accounts is principally historical cost, modified by the revaluation of certain categories of non-current assets and financial instruments.

The Statement of Accounts has been prepared on a 'going concern' basis.

ii. PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS, CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND ESTIMATES AND ERRORS

Prior period adjustments may arise as a result of a change in accounting policies or to correct a material error. Changes in accounting estimates are accounted for prospectively, i.e. in the current and future years affected by the change and do not give rise to a prior period adjustment.

Changes in accounting policies are only made when required by proper accounting practices or the change provides more reliable or relevant information about the effect of transactions, other events and conditions on the Council's financial position or financial performance. Where a change is made, it is applied retrospectively (unless stated otherwise) by adjusting opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period as if the new policy had always been applied.

Material errors discovered in prior period figures are corrected retrospectively by amending opening balances and comparative amounts for the prior period.

iii. ACCRUALS OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Activity is accounted for in the year that it takes place, not simply when cash payments are made or received. In particular:

- Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the Council transfers the significant risks and rewards of ownership to the purchaser and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Revenue from the provision of services is recognised when the Council can measure reliably the percentage of completion of the transaction and it is probable that economic benefits or service potential associated with the transaction will flow to the Council.
- Supplies are recorded as expenditure when they are consumed - where there is a gap between the date supplies are received and their consumption, they are carried as inventories on the Balance Sheet.
- Expenses in relation to services received (including services provided by employees) are recorded as expenditure when the services are received rather than when payments are made.
- Interest receivable on investments and payable on borrowings is accounted for respectively as income and expenditure on the basis of the effective interest rate for the relevant financial instrument rather than the cash flows fixed or determined by the contract.
- Where revenue and expenditure have been recognised but cash has not been received or paid, a debtor or creditor for the relevant amount is recorded in the Balance Sheet. Where the exact amount of a debtor or creditor was not known at the time of closing the accounts then an estimated amount has been used.

Any known uncollectable debts are written off and where there is uncertainty over debt recovery, an allowance for doubtful debt is made. In both instances a charge is made to revenue.

iv. OVERHEADS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The costs of overheads and support services are charged to services as agreed in the annual budget.

v. GOVERNMENT GRANTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Whether paid on account, by instalments or in arrears, government grants and third-party contributions and donations are recognised as due to the Council when there is reasonable assurance that:

- the Council will comply with the conditions attached to the payments, and
- the grants or contributions will be received.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Amounts recognised as due to the Council are not credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement until conditions attached to the grant or contribution have been satisfied. Conditions are stipulations that specify that the future economic benefits or service potential embodied in the asset acquired using the grant or contribution are required to be consumed by the recipient as specified, or future economic benefits or service potential must be returned to the transferor.

Monies advanced as grants and contributions for which conditions have not been satisfied are carried in the Balance Sheet as creditors. When conditions are satisfied, the grant or contribution is credited to the relevant service line (attributable revenue grants and contributions) or Taxation and Non-Specific Grant Income & Expenditure (non-ring-fenced revenue grants and all capital grants) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where capital grants are credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, they are reversed out of the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the grant has yet to be used to finance capital expenditure, it is posted to the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve. Where it has been applied, it is posted to the Capital Adjustment Account. Amounts in the Capital Grants Unapplied reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account once they have been applied to fund capital expenditure.

Community Infrastructure Levy

The Council has elected to charge a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL). The levy will be charged on new builds (chargeable developments) with appropriate planning consent. The Council charges for and collects the levy, which is a planning charge. The income from the levy will be used to help pay for facilities and community services such as: transport including roads, schools/colleges, medical/health services, sports and open spaces.

CIL is received without outstanding conditions; it is therefore recognised at the commencement date of the chargeable development in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in accordance with the accounting policy for government grants and contributions set out above. CIL charges will be largely used to fund capital expenditure. However, a proportion of the charge may be used to fund revenue expenditure.

vi. CHARGES TO REVENUE FOR NON-CURRENT ASSETS

Services, support services and trading accounts are debited with the following amounts to record the cost of holding property, plant and equipment during the year:

- depreciation attributable to the assets used by the relevant service.
- revaluation and impairment losses on assets used by the service where there are no accumulated gains in the Revaluation Reserve against which the losses can be written off.
- amortisation of intangible assets attributable to the service.

The Council is not required to raise council tax to fund depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses or amortisation. However, it is required to make an annual contribution from revenue towards the reduction in its overall borrowing requirement equal to an amount calculated on a prudent basis determined by the Council in accordance with statutory guidance. Depreciation, revaluation and impairment losses and amortisation are therefore replaced by the contribution in the General Fund balance through a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

vii. COUNCIL TAX AND NON-DOMESTIC RATES

Billing authorities act as agents, collecting council tax and non-domestic rates (NDR) on behalf of the major preceptors (including government for NDR) and, as principals, collecting council tax and NDR for themselves. Billing authorities are required by statute to maintain a separate fund (i.e. the Collection Fund) for the collection and distribution of amounts due in respect of council tax and NDR. Under the legislative framework for the Collection Fund, billing authorities, major preceptors and central government share proportionately the risks and rewards that the amount of council tax and NDR collected could be less or more than predicted.

Accounting for Council Tax and NDR

The council tax and NDR income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the Council's share of accrued income for the year. However, regulations determine the amount of council tax and NDR that must be included in the Council's General Fund. Therefore, the difference between the income included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement and the amount required by regulation to be credited to the General Fund is taken to the Collection Fund Adjustment Account and included as a reconciling item in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The Balance Sheet includes the Council's share of the end of year balances in respect of council tax and NDR relating to arrears, provision for impairment of doubtful debts, overpayments and prepayments and appeals.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

viii. REVENUE EXPENDITURE FUNDED FROM CAPITAL UNDER STATUTE

Expenditure incurred during the year that may be capitalised under statutory provisions, but that does not result in the creation of a non-current asset, has been charged as expenditure to the relevant service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year. Where the Council has determined to meet the cost of this expenditure from existing capital resources or by borrowing, a transfer in the Movement in Reserves Statement from the General Fund balance to the Capital Adjustment Account then reverses out the amounts charged so that there is no impact on the level of council tax.

ix. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Assets that have physical substance and are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others, or for administrative purposes and that are expected to be used during more than one financial year are classified as Property, Plant and Equipment.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of Property, Plant and Equipment is capitalised on an accruals basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits, or service potential associated with the item, will flow to the Council and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. Expenditure that maintains but does not add to an asset's potential to deliver future economic benefits or service potential (i.e. repairs and maintenance) is charged as an expense when it is incurred.

The threshold for capital expenditure has been set at £10,000.

Measurement

Assets are initially measured at cost, comprising:

- the purchase price.
- any costs attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

The Council does not capitalise borrowing costs incurred whilst assets are under construction.

The cost of assets acquired other than by purchase is deemed to be its fair value, unless the acquisition does not have commercial substance (i.e. it will not lead to a variation in the cash flows of the Council). In the latter case, where an asset is acquired via an exchange, the cost of the acquisition is the carrying amount of the asset given up by the Council.

Assets are then carried in the Balance Sheet using the following measurement bases:

- infrastructure (see separate section below), community assets and assets under construction - depreciated historical cost.
- dwellings - current value, determined using the basis of existing use value for social housing (EUV-SH).
- council offices - current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value - EUV), except for a few offices that are situated close to the Council's housing properties, where there is no market for office accommodation, and that are measured at depreciated replacement cost (instant build) as an estimate of current value.
- school buildings, sports centres and libraries - are deemed of a specialist nature and are measured at depreciated replacement cost which is used as an estimate of current value.
- surplus assets - the current value measurement base is fair value, estimated at highest and best use from a market participant's perspective.
- all other assets - current value, determined as the amount that would be paid for the asset in its existing use (existing use value - EUV).

Depreciated Replacement Cost is used as an estimate of current value where there is no market-based evidence of current value because of the specialist nature of an asset, for example schools.

Depreciated Historical Cost basis is used as a proxy for current value where non-property assets have short useful lives or low values (or both).

Assets included in the Balance Sheet at current value are revalued sufficiently regularly to ensure that their carrying amount is not materially different from their current value at the year-end, but as a minimum every five years. Increases in valuations are matched by credits to the Revaluation Reserve to recognise unrealised gains. Exceptionally, gains might be credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement where they arise from the reversal of a loss previously charged to a service.

All items of property, plant and equipment, except Council Dwellings, are revalued on a four-year rolling programme. Council Dwellings are revalued annually.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Where decreases in value are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains).
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The Revaluation Reserve contains revaluation gains recognised since 1 April 2007 only, the date of its formal implementation. Gains arising before that date have been consolidated into the Capital Adjustment Account.

Impairment

Assets are assessed at each year-end as to whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. Where indications exist and any possible differences are estimated to be material, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated and, where this is less than the carrying amount of the asset, an impairment loss is recognised for the shortfall.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by:

- where there is a balance of revaluation gains for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against that balance (up to the amount of the accumulated gains).
- where there is no balance in the Revaluation Reserve or an insufficient balance, the carrying amount of the asset is written down against the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where an impairment loss is reversed subsequently, the reversal is credited to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, up to the amount of the original loss, adjusted, where material, for depreciation that would have been charged if the loss had not been recognised.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided for on all Property, Plant and Equipment assets by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. An exception is made for assets without a determinable finite useful life (i.e. freehold land and certain Community Assets) and assets that are not yet available for use (i.e. assets under construction).

The estimated life is determined at the time of acquisition or when the asset has been revalued. Assets are depreciated from the year after their acquisition or completion, and are depreciated in the year of disposal. Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis with no residual value.

Where an item of Property, Plant and Equipment asset has major components whose cost is significant in relation to the total cost of the item, leading to a significantly different depreciation profile, the components are depreciated separately.

Revaluation gains are also depreciated, with an amount equal to the difference between current value depreciation charged on assets and the depreciation that would have been chargeable based on their historical cost being transferred each year from the Revaluation Reserve to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Disposals and Non-Current Assets Held for Sale

When it becomes probable that the carrying amount of an asset will be recovered principally through a sale transaction rather than through its continuing use, it is reclassified as an Asset Held for Sale. The asset is assessed immediately before reclassification and then carried at the lower of this amount and fair value less costs to sell. Where there is a subsequent decrease to fair value less costs to sell, the loss is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Gains in fair value are recognised only up to the amount of any previously recognised losses in the Surplus or Deficit on Provision of Services. Depreciation is not charged on Assets Held for Sale.

If assets no longer meet the criteria to be classified as Assets Held for Sale, they are reclassified back to non-current assets and valued at the lower of their carrying amount before they were classified as Held for Sale; adjusted for depreciation, amortisation or revaluations that would have been recognised had they not been classified as Held for Sale, and their recoverable amount at the date of the decision not to sell.

Assets that are to be abandoned or scrapped are not reclassified as Assets Held for Sale.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

When an asset is disposed of or decommissioned, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. Receipts from disposals (if any) are credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal). Any revaluation gains accumulated for the asset in the Revaluation Reserve are transferred to the Capital Adjustment Account.

Amounts received for a disposal in excess of £10,000 are categorised as capital receipts. 75% of receipts relating to Right to Buy disposals (net of statutory deductions and allowances) is payable to the Government, except where receipts have been retained under the 1-4-1 replacement scheme.

The balance of receipts is required to be credited to the Capital Receipts Reserve, and can then only be used for new capital investment or set aside to reduce the Council's underlying need to borrow (the capital financing requirement). Receipts are appropriated to the Reserve from the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of property, plant or equipment is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Highways infrastructure assets

Highways infrastructure assets include carriageways, footways and cycle tracks, structures (eg bridges), street lighting, street furniture (eg illuminated traffic signals, bollards), traffic management systems and land which together form a single integrated network.

Recognition

Expenditure on the acquisition or replacement of components of the network is capitalised on an accrual basis, provided that it is probable that the future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the authority and the cost of the item can be measured reliably.

Measurement

Highways infrastructure assets are generally measured at depreciated historical cost. However, this is a modified form of historical cost – opening balances for highways infrastructure assets were originally recorded in balance sheets at amounts of capital undischarged for sums borrowed as at 1 April 1994, which was deemed at that time to be historical cost.

Where impairment losses are identified, they are accounted for by the carrying amount of the asset being written down to the recoverable amount.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on the parts of the highways network infrastructure assets that are subject to deterioration or depletion and by the systematic allocation of their depreciable amounts over their useful lives. Depreciation is charged on a straight-line basis. Annual depreciation is the depreciation amount allocated each year and varies by type of infrastructure between 3 and 40 years.

x. HERITAGE ASSETS

A heritage asset is an asset with historical, artistic, scientific, technological, geophysical or environmental qualities that is held and maintained principally for its contribution to knowledge and culture.

Valuation Policy

The Council discloses Heritage Assets on a market valuation basis on the balance sheet. Heritage assets are accounted for in accordance with the Council's accounting policies on property, plant and equipment, except where it is not practical to obtain a valuation. Valuations may be made by any method that is appropriate and relevant. There is no requirement for valuations to be carried out or verified by external valuers, nor is there any prescribed minimum period between valuations.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Depreciation, amortisation and impairment policy

The Council has a policy of not charging depreciation or amortisation on heritage assets which have indefinite lives. The carrying amount of a heritage asset shall be reviewed where there is evidence of impairment; for example, where an asset has suffered physical deterioration or breakage or new doubts arise as to its authenticity.

The Council has reported four categories of heritage assets:

(i) Art Collections

This category consists of pictures and works of art including historical paintings, sketches and other artwork including the Cecil French Bequest and is reported in the balance sheet at market valuation.

(ii) Books & Printed Materials

This category consists of books, and other printed material such as press, pictures, drawings and prints.

(iii) Ceramics & Glass

(iv) Other Heritage Assets

This category consists of clocks, watches, coins, general items, jewellery, silver items, vertu, other decorative arts and the Mylne Bequest.

These valuations are reviewed periodically as appropriate. These are deemed to have indeterminate lives and high residual values. Hence the Council does not deem it appropriate to charge depreciation for these assets.

xi. INVESTMENT PROPERTY

Investment properties are those that are used solely to earn rentals and/or for capital appreciation. The definition is not met if the property is used in any way to facilitate the delivery of services or production of goods or is held for sale.

Investment properties are measured initially at cost and subsequently at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell such an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. As a non-financial asset, investment properties are measured at highest and best use. Properties are not depreciated but are revalued annually according to market conditions at the year-end. Gains and losses on revaluation are posted to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The same treatment is applied to gains and losses on disposal.

Rentals received in relation to investment properties are credited to the Financing and Investment Income line and result in a gain for the General Fund balance. However, revaluation and disposal gains and losses are not permitted by statutory arrangements to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

xii. LEASES

Leases are classified as finance leases where the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of the property, plant or equipment from the lessor to the lessee. All other leases are classified as operating leases.

Where a lease covers both land and buildings, the land and buildings elements are considered separately for classification.

Arrangements that do not have the legal status of a lease but convey a right to use an asset in return for payment are accounted for under this policy where fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of specific assets.

The Council as Lessee

Finance Leases

Property, Plant and Equipment held under finance leases is recognised on the Balance Sheet at the commencement of the lease at its fair value measured at the lease's inception (or the present value of the minimum lease payments, if lower). The asset recognised is matched by a liability for the obligation to pay the lessor. Initial direct costs of the Council are added to the carrying amount of the asset. Premiums paid on entry into a lease are applied to writing down the lease liability. Contingent rents are charged as expenses in the periods in which they are incurred.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Lease payments are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property, plant or equipment - applied to write down the lease liability, and
- a finance charge (debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement).

Property, Plant and Equipment recognised under finance leases is accounted for using the policies applied generally to such assets, subject to depreciation being charged over the lease term if this is shorter than the asset's estimated useful life (where ownership of the asset does not transfer to the Council at the end of the lease period).

The Council is not required to raise council tax to cover depreciation or revaluation and impairment losses arising on leased assets. Instead, a prudent annual contribution is made from revenue funds towards the deemed capital investment in accordance with statutory requirements. Depreciation and revaluation and impairment losses are therefore substituted by a revenue contribution in the General Fund Balance, by way of an adjusting transaction with the Capital Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement for the difference between the two.

Operating Leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as an expense of the services benefitting from use of the leased property, plant or equipment. Charges are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a rent-free period at the commencement of the lease).

The Council as Lessor

Finance Leases

Where the Council grants a finance lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the relevant asset is written out of the Balance Sheet as a disposal. At the commencement of the lease, the carrying amount of the asset in the Balance Sheet (whether Property, Plant and Equipment or Assets Held for Sale) is written off to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of the gain or loss on disposal. A gain, representing the Council's net investment in the lease, is credited to the same line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement also as part of the gain or loss on disposal (i.e. netted off against the carrying value of the asset at the time of disposal), matched by a lease (long-term debtor) asset in the Balance Sheet.

Lease rentals receivable are apportioned between:

- a charge for the acquisition of the interest in the property - applied to write down the lease debtor (together with any premiums received), and
- finance income (credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement).

The gain credited to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement on disposal is not permitted by statute to increase the General Fund Balance and is required to be treated as a capital receipt. Where a premium has been received, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. Where the amount due in relation to the lease asset is to be settled by the payment of rentals in future financial years, this is posted out of the General Fund Balance to the Deferred Capital Receipts Reserve in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When the future rentals are received, the element for the capital receipt for the disposal of the asset is used to write down the lease debtor. At this point, the deferred capital receipts are transferred to the Capital Receipts Reserve.

The written-off value of disposals is not a charge against council tax, as the cost of Property, Plant and Equipment is fully provided for under separate arrangements for capital financing. Amounts are therefore appropriated to the Capital Adjustment Account from the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Operating Leases

Where the Council grants an operating lease over a property or an item of plant or equipment, the asset is retained in the Balance Sheet. Rental income is credited to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. Credits are made on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease, even if this does not match the pattern of payments (e.g. there is a premium paid at the commencement of the lease). Initial direct costs incurred in negotiating and arranging the lease are added to the carrying amount of the relevant asset and charged as an expense over the lease term on the same basis as rental income.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

xiii. PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE (PFI) AND SIMILAR CONTRACTS

PFI and similar contracts are agreements to receive services, where the responsibility for making available the property, plant and equipment needed to provide the services passes to the PFI contractor.

As the Council is deemed to control the services that are provided under its PFI schemes, and as ownership of the Property, Plant and Equipment will pass to the Council at the end of the contracts for no additional charge, the Council carries the assets used under the contracts on its Balance Sheet as part of Property, Plant and Equipment.

The original recognition of these assets at fair value (based on the cost to purchase the Property, Plant and Equipment) was balanced by the recognition of a liability for amounts due to the scheme operator to pay for the capital investment. For the Council's existing PFI scheme (which provides services for vulnerable older people in the borough) the liability was written down by an initial capital contribution of £2.9m.

Non-current assets recognised on the Balance Sheet are revalued and depreciated in the same way as Property, Plant and Equipment owned by the Council.

The amounts payable to the PFI operators each year are analysed into the following elements:

- fair value of the services received during the year - debited to Adult Social Care service in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- finance cost - an interest charge between 8-17% on the outstanding Balance Sheet liability, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- contingent rent - increases in the amount to be paid for the property arising during the contract, debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement
- payment towards liability - applied to write down the Balance Sheet liability towards the PFI operator (the profile of write-downs is calculated using the same principles as for a finance lease).

xiv. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Expenditure on non-monetary assets that do not have physical substance but are controlled by the Council as a result of past events (e.g. software licences) is capitalised when it is expected that future economic benefits or service potential will flow from the intangible asset to the Council.

Intangible assets are measured initially at cost. Amounts are only revalued where the fair value of the assets held by the Council can be determined by reference to an active market. In practice, no intangible asset held by the Council meets this criterion, and they are therefore carried at amortised cost.

An asset is tested for impairment whenever there is an indication that the asset might be impaired - any losses recognised are posted to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

The depreciable amount of an intangible asset is amortised over its useful life, usually 4 years but ranging between 3 to 10 years, to the relevant service line(s) in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or abandonment of an intangible asset is posted to the Other Operating Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

Where expenditure on intangible assets qualifies as capital expenditure for statutory purposes, amortisation, impairment losses and disposal gains and losses are not permitted to have an impact on the General Fund Balance. The gains and losses are therefore reversed out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement and posted to the Capital Adjustment Account and (for any sale proceeds greater than £10,000) the Capital Receipts Reserve.

xv. INVENTORIES

Inventories are included in the Balance Sheet at the lower of cost and net realisable value. The cost of inventories is assigned using the 'First-in, First-out' (FIFO) costing formula.

xvi. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty on notice of not more than 24 hours.

Cash equivalents are investments that, having originally been invested for no longer than three months, are repayable on demand or readily convertible to known amounts of cash with an insignificant risk of change in

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

value. Fixed Deposits are not considered to be readily convertible since they are only repayable at the point of maturity and cannot be traded or redeemed without penalty.

In the Cash Flow Statement, cash and cash equivalents are shown net of bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Council's cash management.

Cash and Cash Equivalents are held to meet the daily cash flow needs of the Council. These are distinct from investments that are held for the purposes of capital protection or appreciation and/or earning a return.

xvii. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Financial Liabilities

Financial liabilities are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value and are carried at their amortised cost. Annual charges to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for interest payable are based on the carrying amount of the liability, multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments over the life of the instrument to the amount at which it was originally recognised.

For most of the borrowings that the Council has, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal repayable (plus accrued interest); and interest charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is the amount payable for the year according to the loan agreement.

Gains and losses on the repurchase or early settlement of borrowing are credited and debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year of repurchase/settlement. However, where repurchase has taken place as part of a restructuring of the loan portfolio that involves the modification or exchange of existing instruments, the premium or discount is respectively deducted from or added to the amortised cost of the new or modified loan and the write-down to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is spread over the life of the loan by an adjustment to the effective interest rate.

Where premiums and discounts have been charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement, regulations allow the impact on the General Fund Balance to be spread over future years. The Council has a policy of spreading the gain or loss over the term that was remaining on the loan against which the premium was payable or discount receivable when it was repaid. The reconciliation of amounts charged to the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the net charge required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Financial Assets

Financial assets are classified based on a classification and measurement approach that reflects the business model for holding the financial assets and their cashflow characteristics. There are three main classes of financial assets measured at:

- amortised cost
- fair value through profit or loss (FVPL), and
- fair value through other comprehensive income (FVOCI)

The Council's business model is to hold investments to collect contractual cash flows. Financial assets are therefore classified as amortised cost, except for those whose contractual payments are not solely payment of principal and interest (i.e. where the cash flows do not take the form of a basic debt instrument).

Financial Assets Measured at Amortised Cost

Financial assets measured at amortised cost are recognised on the Balance Sheet when the Council becomes a party to the contractual provisions of a financial instrument and are initially measured at fair value. They are subsequently measured at their amortised cost. Annual credits to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES) for interest receivable are based on the carrying amount of the asset multiplied by the effective rate of interest for the instrument. For most of the financial assets held by the Council, this means that the amount presented in the Balance Sheet is the outstanding principal receivable (plus accrued interest) and interest credited to the CIES is the amount receivable for the year in the loan agreement.

However, the Council has made a number of loans to voluntary organisations at less than market rates (soft loans). When soft loans are made, a loss is recorded in the CIES (debited to the appropriate service) for the present value of the interest that will be foregone over the life of the instrument, resulting in a lower amortised cost than the outstanding principal.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Interest is credited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES at a marginally higher effective rate of interest than the rate receivable from the voluntary organisations, with the difference serving to increase the amortised cost of the loan in the Balance Sheet. Statutory provisions require that the impact of soft loans on the General Fund Balance is the interest receivable for the financial year – the reconciliation of amounts debited and credited to the CIES to the net gain required against the General Fund Balance is managed by a transfer to or from the Financial Instruments Adjustment Account in the Movement in Reserves Statement.

Any gains and losses that arise on the derecognition of an asset are credited or debited to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the CIES.

xviii. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Benefits Payable During Employment

Short-term employee benefits are those due to be settled within 12 months of the year-end. They include such benefits as wages and salaries, paid annual leave and paid sick leave, bonuses and non-monetary benefits (e.g. cars) for current employees and are recognised as an expense for services in the year in which employees render service to the Council. An accrual is made for the cost of holiday entitlements (or any form of leave, e.g. time off in lieu) earned by employees but not taken before the year-end which employees can carry forward into the next financial year. The accrual is made at the wage and salary rates applicable in the following accounting year, being the period in which the employee takes the benefit. The accrual is charged to Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services, but then reversed out through the Movement in Reserves Statement so that holiday benefits are charged to revenue in the financial year in which the holiday absence occurs.

Termination Benefits

Termination benefits are amounts payable as a result of a decision by the Council to terminate an officer's employment before the normal retirement date or an officer's decision to accept voluntary redundancy and are charged on an accruals basis to the relevant service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement at the earlier of when the Council can no longer withdraw the offer of those benefits or when the Council recognises costs for a restructuring.

Where termination benefits involve the enhancement of pensions, statutory provisions require the General Fund balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or pensioner in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, appropriations are required to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for pension enhancement termination benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end.

Post-Employment Benefits

Employees of the Council are members of the following pension schemes:

- Under the provisions of the Local Government Pension Scheme: the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund, administered by London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.
- Also under the Local Government Pension Scheme: the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA) Pension Fund, administered by the LPFA.
- The Teachers' Pension Scheme, administered by Capita Teachers' Pensions on behalf of the Department for Education (DfE).

All schemes provide defined benefits to members (retirement lump sums and pensions), earned as employees who worked for the Council.

However, the arrangements for the Teachers' Pension Scheme mean that liabilities for these benefits cannot ordinarily be identified specifically to the Council. The scheme is therefore accounted for as if it were a defined contribution scheme and no liability for future payments of benefits is recognised in the Balance Sheet. The Children's Services line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement is charged with the employer's contributions payable to Teachers' Pensions in the year.

The Local Government Pension Scheme

Pension funds under the Local Government Scheme are accounted for as defined benefits schemes.

The liabilities of the Funds attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method - i.e. an assessment of the future payments that will be made in relation to retirement benefits earned to date by employees, based on assumptions about mortality rates, employee turnover rates, etc., and projections of projected earnings for current employees.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

Liabilities are discounted to their value at current prices, using a discount rate of 2.70% (2.00% in 2020/21). Both FRS102 and IAS19 state that the discount rate used to place a value on the obligations should be determined by reference to market yields on high quality corporate bonds at the reporting date. Our actuaries have adopted an approach to setting the discount rate whereby a corporate bond yield curve is constructed based on the constituents of the iBoxx AA corporate bond index.

The assets of the Funds attributable to the Council are included in the Balance Sheet at their fair value:

- quoted securities and pooled investment vehicles - current bid price
- fixed interest securities net market value based on current yields at the balance sheet date
- unquoted securities - professional estimate
- unitised securities - current bid price
- property - market value.

The change in the net pensions liability is analysed into the following components:

- **Service Cost** comprising:
 - **current service cost:** the increase in liabilities as a result of years of service earned this year - allocated in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement to the services for which the employees worked.
 - **past service cost:** the increase in liabilities arising from current year decisions whose effect relates to years of service earned in earlier year - debited to the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement as part of Centrally Managed Budgets.
 - **net interest on the net defined benefit liability/(asset):** i.e. net interest expense for the Council - the change during the period in the net defined benefit liability/ (asset) that arises from the passage of time charged to the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement - this is calculated by applying the discount rate used to measure the defined benefit obligation at the beginning of the period to the net defined benefit liability (asset) at the beginning of the period - taking into account any changes in the net defined benefit liability (asset) during the period as a result of contribution and benefit payments.
- **Remeasurement** comprising:
 - **Re-measurement of the return on plan assets:** excluding amounts included in net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset) - charged to the Pensions Reserve as Other Comprehensive Income and Expenditure.
 - **Actuarial gains and losses:** changes in the net pensions liability that arise because events have not coincided with assumptions made at the last actuarial valuation or because the actuaries have updated their assumptions debited to the Pensions Reserve.
 - **Contributions paid to the Funds:** cash paid as employer's contributions to the pension fund in settlement of liabilities; not accounted for as an expense.

In relation to retirement benefits, statutory provisions require the General Fund Balance to be charged with the amount payable by the Council to the pension fund or directly to pensioners in the year, not the amount calculated according to the relevant accounting standards. In the Movement in Reserves Statement, this means that there are appropriations to and from the Pensions Reserve to remove the notional debits and credits for retirement benefits and replace them with debits for the cash paid to the pension fund and pensioners and any such amounts payable but unpaid at the year-end. The negative balance that arises on the Pensions Reserve thereby measures the beneficial impact to the General Fund of being required to account for retirement benefits on the basis of cash flows rather than as benefits are earned by employees.

Discretionary Benefits

The Council also has restricted powers to make discretionary awards of retirement benefits in the event of early retirements. Any liabilities estimated to arise as a result of an award to any member of staff (including teachers) are accrued in the year of the decision to make the award and accounted for using the same policies as are applied to the Local Government Pension Scheme.

xix. PROVISIONS, CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTINGENT ASSETS

Provisions

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the Council a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefits or service potential, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. For instance, the Council may be involved in a court case that could eventually result in the making of a settlement or the payment of compensation.

Provisions are charged as an expense to the appropriate service line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement in the year that the Council becomes aware of the obligation, and are measured at the best estimate at the Balance Sheet date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Balance Sheet. Estimated settlements are reviewed at the end of each financial year - where it becomes less than probable that a transfer of economic benefits will now be required (or a lower settlement than anticipated is made), the provision is reversed and credited back to the relevant service.

Where some or all of the payment required to settle a provision is expected to be recovered from another party (e.g. from an insurance claim), this is only recognised as income for the relevant service if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received if the Council settles the obligation.

Contingent Liabilities

A contingent liability arises where:

- (a) an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible obligation whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council, or
- (b) in circumstances where a provision would otherwise be made but either it is not probable that an outflow of resources will be required or the amount of the obligation cannot be measured reliably.

Contingent liabilities are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts if the sums involved are likely to be material.

Contingent Assets

A contingent asset arises where an event has taken place that gives the Council a possible asset whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or otherwise of uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Council.

Contingent assets are not recognised in the Balance Sheet but disclosed in a note to the accounts if the sums involved are likely to be material.

xx. RESERVES

The Council sets aside specific amounts as reserves for future policy purposes or to cover contingencies. Reserves are created by appropriating amounts out of the General Fund Balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement. When expenditure to be financed from a reserve is incurred, it is charged to the appropriate service in that year to score against the Surplus or Deficit on the Provision of Services in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement. The reserve is then appropriated back into the General Fund balance in the Movement in Reserves Statement so that there is no net charge against council tax for the expenditure.

Certain reserves are kept in order to manage the accounting processes for non-current assets (e.g. Revaluation Reserve), financial instruments, retirement (e.g. Pensions Reserve) and employee benefits and do not represent usable resources for the Council - these reserves are explained in the relevant policies.

xxi. INTERESTS IN COMPANIES AND OTHER ENTITIES

Where the Council has material interests in companies and other entities that have the nature of subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities it is required to prepare group accounts.

The Council has interests in a number of companies and other entities however, based on consideration of criteria to determine what constitutes a material interest, the Council has determined that Group Accounts is not required for 2021/22. Companies in which the Council has an interest are detailed in Note 33 to the Core Financial Statements.

xxii. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, both favourable and unfavourable, that occur between the end of the reporting period and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Two types of events can be identified:

- those that provide evidence of conditions that existed at the end of the reporting period - the Statement of Accounts is adjusted to reflect such events
- those that are indicative of conditions that arose after the reporting period - the Statement of Accounts is not adjusted to reflect such events, but where a category of events would have a material effect, disclosure is made in the notes of the nature of the events and their estimated financial effect.

Events taking place after the date of authorisation for issue are not reflected in the Statement of Accounts.

38. Statement of Accounting Policies (cont'd)

xxiii. FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Where the Council has entered into a transaction denominated in a foreign currency, the transaction is converted into sterling at the exchange rate applicable on the date the transaction was effective. Where amounts in a foreign currency are outstanding at the year-end, they are reconverted at the spot exchange rate at 31 March. Resulting gains or losses are recognised in the Financing and Investment Income and Expenditure line in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement.

xxiv. VAT

VAT payable is included as an expense only to the extent that it is not recoverable from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs. VAT receivable is excluded from income.

xxv. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

When items of income and expense are material, their nature and amount is disclosed separately, either on the face of the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement or in the notes to the accounts, depending on how significant the items are to an understanding of the Council's financial position.

xxvi. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

The Council measures some of its assets and liabilities at fair value at the end of the reporting period. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability at the measurement date.

The fair value measurement assumes that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- a) in the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- b) in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.

The Council uses external valuers to provide a valuation of its assets and liabilities in line with the highest and best use definition within the accounting standard. The highest and best use of the asset or liability being valued is considered from the perspective of a market participant. Inputs to the valuation techniques in respect of the Council's fair value measurement of its assets and liabilities are categorised within the fair value hierarchy as follows:

- Level 1 – quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the Council can access at the measurement date.
- Level 2 – inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1 that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3 – unobservable inputs for the asset or liability.

39. Critical Judgements in Applying Accounting Policies

In applying the accounting policies set out in Note 38, the Council has had to make certain judgements about complex transactions or those involving uncertainty about future events.

The critical judgements made in the Statement of Accounts are:

Accounting for Schools - Recognition of Schools

The Council has assessed the legal framework underlying each type of school and determined the treatment of non-current assets within the financial statements according to whether it owns or has some responsibility for, control over or benefit from the service potential of the premises and land occupied.

The Council has considered its accounting classification for each school on an individual case basis in conjunction with relevant dioceses for voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools. As a result, the Council:

- Recognises school assets for community schools on its balance sheet because the rights and obligations associated with such schools rests with the Council; and
- Assesses that the assets relating to academies, voluntary aided (VA), voluntary controlled (VC) or free schools are not controlled by the Council but, following consultation and review, the VA and VC schools have been deemed to be owned by the relevant dioceses.

Recognition of the disposal of school assets on the Council's balance sheet occurs on the date on which a school converts to academy status, not on the date of any related announcement. Neither is any impairment recognised by the Council prior to conversion.

Group Accounts

With respect to the policy on Interest in Companies and Other Entities (Note 38. xxi), the group boundaries have been estimated using the criteria associated with the Code of Practice. In line with the Code the Council has not identified any companies within the group boundary that would require it to complete Group Accounts on grounds of materiality.

40. Accounting Standards not yet adopted

At the balance sheet date, the following new standards and amendments to existing standards have been published but not yet adopted by the Code of Practice of Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom.

- Annual Improvements to IFRS Standards 2018–2020. The annual IFRS improvement programme notes 4 changed standards:
 - IFRS 1 (First-time adoption) – amendment relates to foreign operations of acquired subsidiaries transitioning to IFRS
 - IAS 37 (Onerous contracts) – clarifies the intention of the standard
 - IFRS 16 (Leases) – amendment removes a misleading example that is not referenced in the Code material
 - IAS 41 (Agriculture) – one of a small number of IFRSs that are only expected to apply to local authorities in limited circumstances.

None of the matters covered in the annual improvements are dealt with in detail in the 2022/23 Code. These are minor amendments and are not likely to have a significant effect on the Council's financial statements.

- Property, Plant and Equipment: Proceeds before Intended Use (Amendments to IAS 16). This is unlikely to have any impact on the Council's accounts.
- IFRS 16 Leases will require local authorities that are lessees to recognise most leases on their balance sheets as right-of-use assets with corresponding lease liabilities. CIPFA/LASAAC have deferred implementation of IFRS16 for local government to 1 April 2023. The impact of this code on the accounts is not known at this time.

SUPPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Collection Fund Account

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

Pension Fund Accounts

Collection Fund Account

The Collection Fund is an agent's statement that reflects the statutory obligation for billing authorities to maintain a separate Collection Fund. The statement shows the transactions of the billing authority in relation to the collection from taxpayers and distribution to local authorities and the Government of council tax and non-domestic rates.

	2021/22			2020/21		
	Business Rates	Council Tax	Total	Business Rates	Council Tax	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Income						
Council Tax	-	(102,047)	(102,047)	-	(94,066)	(94,066)
Council Tax Hardship Fund	-			-		
Business Rates	(177,529)	-	(177,529)	(143,635)	-	(143,635)
Business Rate Supplement	(5,009)	-	(5,009)	(3,830)	-	(3,830)
Transitional Protection Payment	597	-	597	1,249	-	1,249
Total Income	(181,941)	(102,047)	(283,988)	(146,216)	(94,066)	(240,282)
Expenditure						
<i>Precepts and Demands:</i>						
Central Government (CLG)	74,956	-	74,956	77,195	-	77,195
LB Hammersmith & Fulham	68,142	67,331	135,473	70,177	63,768	133,945
Greater London Authority	84,042	29,431	113,474	86,551	26,730	113,282
<i>Business Rate Supplement</i>						
Payment to the Greater London Authority	4,997	-	4,997	3,817	-	3,817
Cost of collection	12	-	12	13	-	13
<i>Charges to Collection Fund</i>						
Write-offs of uncollectable amounts	265	852	1,116	(14)	674	660
Increase/ (Decrease) in Allowance for Doubtful Debts	-	4,074	4,074	28,500	4,800	33,299
Increase/ (Decrease) in Provision for Appeals	(12,324)	-	(12,324)	8,924	-	8,924
Distribution/(Recovery) of prior year surplus/(deficit)	(129,437)	(1,533)	(130,969)	7,665	7,505	15,171
Cost of collection	589	-	589	585	-	585
Total Expenditure	91,240	100,155	191,397	283,413	103,477	386,891
Movement on Fund balance	(90,701)	(1,891)	(92,592)	137,196	9,411	146,608
(Surplus)/Deficit as at 1 April	130,587	1,472	132,058	(6,611)	(7,939)	(14,550)
(Surplus)/Deficit as at 31 March	39,887	(419)	39,466	130,587	1,472	132,058

Notes to the Collection Fund Account

1. Income from Council Tax

Council Tax Income is the amount payable by council tax payers, inclusive of changes arising during the year for successful appeals against valuation banding, new properties, disabled relief and exempt properties. The Council's tax base is based on the number of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band, adjusted for dwellings where discounts apply, converted to an equivalent number of Band D dwellings. For 2021/22 it was calculated as follows:

Band	Number of Dwellings 2021/22	Total after Exemptions, Disregards and Disabled Relief	Ratio to Band D	Band D Equivalent Properties	Adjustments for New Properties, other exemptions etc.	Adjustments for Council Tax Support	Total Band D equivalents 2021/22	Band D equivalents 2020/21
A	4,098	2,976	6/9	1,984	(34)	(791)	1,159	1,198
B	6,648	4,985	7/9	3,877	(63)	(1,508)	2,306	2,631
C	14,337	12,501	8/9	11,112	(173)	(2,936)	8,003	8,209
D	25,120	22,597	1	22,597	(203)	(3,486)	18,908	19,077
E	16,427	15,057	11/9	18,403	(88)	(1,760)	16,555	16,264
F	10,243	9,505	13/9	13,730	(8)	(644)	13,078	12,568
G	11,662	10,987	15/9	18,312	10	(342)	17,980	17,544
H	2,731	2,646	18/9	5,292	(4)	(9)	5,279	5,068
Total	91,266	81,253		95,307	(563)	(11,476)	83,268	82,559

The 2021/22 Council Tax Base after allowing for adjustments for non collection was 80,930.

The Council set a 2021/22 Band D charge of £831.96 (£792.42 in 2020/21), inclusive of the Adult Social Care Precept set at 3%. The GLA's Band D charge for 2021/22 was £363.66 (£326.92 in 2020/21) making a total Band D Council Tax charge for 2021/22 of £1,195.62 (2020/21 of £1,119.34).

2. National Non-Domestic Rates

NNDR is organised and administered on a national basis. The council collects non-domestic rates for its area that are based on local rateable values multiplied by a uniform rate (set by the Government). The National Non Domestic Rateable Value at 31 March 2022 was £574.9m (£591.6m as at 31 March 2021). The standard NNDR multiplier for 2021/22 was 51.2 pence (51.2 pence in 2020/21). The Small Business Rate Relief multiplier for 2021/22 was 49.9 pence (49.9 pence in 2020/21).

The council is also required to collect a Business Rate Supplement (BRS) from NNDR taxpayers. This BRS is then paid over to Greater London Authority (GLA) who have responsibility for applying it to the Crossrail project across London.

3. Collection Fund Balance

A proportion of the Collection Fund balance above is properly attributable to the GLA or the DLUHC and thus should not be wholly taken to the net worth component of the Council's Balance Sheet. Only an element calculated pro rata to the precepts above therefore appears as a balance in the net worth section of the Council's Balance Sheet with the remainder treated as an accrual to the other authorities.

	2021/22			2020/21		
	Business Rates £000	Council Tax £000	Total £000	Business Rates £000	Council Tax £000	Total £000
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham	11,966	(279)	11,688	39,176	1,073	40,250
Greater London Authority	14,758	(141)	14,617	48,317	399	48,716
Central Government (DLUHC)	13,163	-	13,163	43,094	-	43,094
	39,887	(420)	39,468	130,587	1,472	132,060

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

The HRA Income and Expenditure Statement shows the economic cost in the year of providing housing services in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices, rather than the amount to be funded from rents and government grants. Authorities charge rents to cover expenditure in accordance with regulations; this may be different from the accounting cost. The increase or decrease in the year, on the basis of which rents are raised, is shown in the Movement on the HRA Statement.

HRA Income and Expenditure Statement

	Notes	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Income			
Dwelling Rents		(68,740)	(67,601)
Non-dwelling rents		(24)	-
Charges for services and facilities		(13,870)	(11,420)
Contributions towards expenditure		(1,063)	(1,713)
		(83,697)	(80,734)
Expenditure			
Repairs and maintenance and management			
Repairs and maintenance		18,984	16,494
Supervision and management		44,376	45,616
Rents, rates, taxes and other charges		605	621
Depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	6	17,012	15,712
Depreciation and impairment of non-current assets - dwelling revaluation	6	(13,996)	(46,572)
Debt management costs		151	138
Movement in the allowance for bad debts		1,746	833
		68,878	32,842
		(14,819)	(47,892)
Net Cost of HRA Services as included in the whole authority Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement			
HRA services' share of Non Distributed Costs		4,482	85
		(10,337)	(47,807)
HRA share of the operating income and expenditure included in the Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement:			
(Gain)/loss on sale of HRA non-current assets		(11,276)	(2,645)
Net (gains)/losses from fair value adjustments on investment properties		2,157	1,829
Income and expenditure in relation to investment properties		(3,464)	(3,305)
Interest payable and similar charges		8,262	8,567
Interest and investment income		-	(2)
Net interest on the net defined benefit liability (asset)		1,925	886
Capital grants and contributions		(4,010)	(1,689)
		(16,743)	(44,166)
Movement on the HRA Statement			
		(17,562)	(24,580)
Balance on the HRA at the end of the previous year			
(Surplus)/deficit for the year on the HRA Income and Expenditure Statement		(16,743)	(44,166)
Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute	1	20,788	47,666
Net (increase)/decrease before transfers to/(from) reserves		4,045	3,500
Transfers to/(from) reserves			
Earmarked Reserves*		(2,047)	3,518
		1,998	7,018
(Increase)/decrease in year on the HRA			
Balance on the HRA at the end of the current year		(15,564)	(17,562)

* For movements in HRA Earmarked Reserves refer to Note 4 of the Core Financial Statements

Notes to the Housing Revenue Account

1. Adjustments between accounting basis and funding basis under statute

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Charges for depreciation of non-dwellings	(238)	(223)
Charges for depreciation of dwellings	16,774	15,489
Reversal of Major Repairs Allowance credited to the HRA	(15,981)	(15,265)
Impairment/Revaluation gains, losses (charged to the I&E)	13,996	46,572
Revenue expenditure funded from capital under statute (REFCUS)	(1,065)	(1,271)
Capital Funding	7,319	1,476
Gain or loss on sale of HRA non-current assets	10,639	2,645
HRA share of contributions (to)/from the Pensions Reserve	(10,656)	(1,757)
	20,788	47,666

2. Housing Stock

The Council has overall responsibility for managing the housing stock. The average number of dwellings during 2021/22 was 12,003. The stock movement during the year was as shown in the table below. The figure for hostels is based on dwelling equivalents.

	Dwellings Number	Hostels Number	Equity Share Number	Total Number
Number at 1 April 2021	12,016	67	13	12,096
Additions	6	-	-	6
Disposals	(32)	-	(2)	(34)
Number at 31 March 2022	11,990	67	11	12,068

3. Stock Valuation

The net balance sheet value of land, housing dwellings and other assets within the HRA is as follows:

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Operational Assets		
Housing Dwellings	1,474,362	1,412,221
Other Land and Buildings	10,772	9,589
Vehicles, Plant, Equipment	191	269
Intangible Assets	15	22
Non Operational Assets		
Surplus Assets	8,968	8,360
Investment Properties	51,482	53,080
	1,545,790	1,483,541

The open market, vacant possession fair value of houses and flats within the HRA as at 31 March 2022 was £5.87 billion. This compares to the balance sheet value of £1.47 billion for the Council's dwelling stock and hostels as at 31 March 2022. This is an indication of the economic and social cost of providing Council housing at less than full market rents.

4. Capital Expenditure Financing

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Borrowing	23,921	17,288
Major Repairs Reserve	17,012	26,287
Other Grants and Contributions	7,775	4,251
Capital Receipts	6,744	3,258
Total	55,452	51,084

5. Capital Receipts

During the year the following net capital receipts from disposals were received:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Dwelling & Hostels	(7,966)	(1,981)
Non-Dwellings	(6,185)	(1,442)
Total	(14,151)	(3,423)

6. Depreciation and Impairment

The total charge for depreciation and impairment within the Council's HRA is shown below:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Operational Assets		
Depreciation		
Dwellings	16,774	15,489
Other Land and Buildings	153	145
Vehicles, Plant, Equipment and Intangible Assets	85	78
Sub-total depreciation and impairment of non-current assets	17,012	15,712
Revaluation (Gain) / Loss - dwellings	(13,996)	(46,572)
Total	3,016	(30,860)

7. Rent Arrears and Allowance for Doubtful Debts

Gross rent arrears were as follows:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Main Council Stock	7,031	6,683
Hostels	202	678
Total	7,233	7,361

Allowances for Doubtful Debts at 31 March were:

	2021/22	2020/21
	£000	£000
Main Council Stock	(5,987)	(5,635)
Hostels	(207)	(678)
Total	(6,194)	(6,313)

Pension Fund Accounts

Independent Auditor's Report on the Pension Fund

Fund Account

Net Assets Statement

Notes to the Pension Fund

Independent auditor's report to the members of London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham on the pension fund financial statements of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund (the 'Pension Fund') administered by London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (the 'Authority') for the year ended 31 March 2022 which comprise the Fund Account, the Net Assets Statement and notes to the pension fund financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and the CIPFA/LASAAC code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the financial transactions of the Pension Fund during the year ended 31 March 2022 and of the amount and disposition at that date of the fund's assets and liabilities;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law, as required by the Code of Audit Practice (2020) ("the Code of Audit Practice") approved by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements' section of our report. We are independent of the Authority in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the Pension Fund's financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

We are responsible for concluding on the appropriateness of the Director of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the auditor's opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Pension Fund to cease to continue as a going concern.

In our evaluation of the Director of Finance's conclusions, and in accordance with the expectation set out within the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22 that the Pension Fund's financial statements shall be prepared on a going concern basis, we considered the inherent risks associated with the continuation of services provided by the Pension Fund. In doing so we had regard to the guidance provided in Practice Note 10 Audit of financial statements and regularity of public sector bodies in the United Kingdom (Revised 2020) on the application of ISA (UK) 570 Going Concern to public sector entities. We assessed the reasonableness of the basis of preparation used by the Authority in the Pension Fund financial statements and the disclosures in the Pension Fund financial statements over the going concern period.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Director of Finance's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the Pension Fund financial statements is appropriate. The responsibilities of the Director of Finance with respect to going concern are described in the 'Responsibilities of the Authority, the Director of Finance and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements' section of this report.

Other information

The Director of Finance is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Statement of Accounts, other than the Pension Fund's financial statements and our auditor's report thereon, and our auditor's report on the Authority's financial statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the Pension Fund's financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Pension Fund's financial statements or our knowledge of the Pension Fund obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the Pension Fund financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of the other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter required by the Code of Audit Practice (2020) published by the National Audit Office on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (the Code of Audit Practice)

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit of the Pension Fund's financial statements and our knowledge of the Pension Fund, the other information published together with the Pension Fund's financial statements in the Statement of Accounts, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the Pension Fund financial statements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Code of Audit Practice, we are required to report to you if:

- we issue a report in the public interest under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make a written recommendation to the Authority under section 24 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application to the court for a declaration that an item of account is contrary to law under Section 28 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we issue an advisory notice under Section 29 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit; or
- we make an application for judicial review under Section 31 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, in the course of, or at the conclusion of the audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of the above matters in relation to the Pension Fund.

Responsibilities of the Authority, the Director of Finance and Those Charged with Governance for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Responsibilities, the Authority is required to make arrangements for the proper administration of its financial affairs and to secure that one of its officers has the responsibility for the

administration of those affairs. In this authority, that officer is the Director of Finance. The Director of Finance is responsible for the preparation of the Statement of Accounts, which includes the Pension Fund's financial statements, in accordance with proper practices as set out in the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Director of Finance determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the Pension Fund's financial statements, the Director of Finance is responsible for assessing the Pension Fund's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless there is an intention by government that the services provided by the Pension Fund will no longer be provided.

The Audit Committee is Those Charged with Governance for the Pension Fund. Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Authority's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Pension Fund's financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK).

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Pension Fund and determined that the most significant, which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements, are those related to the reporting frameworks (international accounting standards as interpreted and adapted by the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of practice on local authority accounting in the United Kingdom 2021/22, The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015, the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, The Local government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.
- We enquired of senior officers and the Audit Committee, concerning the Authority's policies and procedures relating to:
 - the identification, evaluation and compliance with laws and regulations;
 - the detection and response to the risks of fraud; and
 - the establishment of internal controls to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.

-
- We enquired of senior officers, Internal Audit and the Audit Committee, whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had any knowledge of actual, suspected or alleged fraud.
 - We assessed the susceptibility of the Pension Fund's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by evaluating officers' incentives and opportunities for manipulation of the financial statements. This included the evaluation of the risk of management override of controls. We determined that the principal risks were in relation to:
 - The propensity of external reporting pressures to exert influence on management's approach to recognition of transactions in the Fund Account; journal entries posted which met a range of criteria determined during the course of the audit, in particular those posted around the reporting date which had an impact on the Fund Account, and
 - potential management bias in determining accounting estimates made in respect of the valuation of assets and liabilities in the Net Assets Statement.
 - Our audit procedures involved:
 - evaluation of the design effectiveness of controls that the Director of Finance has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
 - journal entry testing, with a focus on entries meeting the criteria determined by the audit team;
 - challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates in respect of the valuation of level 3 investments;
 - assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.
 - These audit procedures were designed to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements were free from fraud or error. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error and detecting irregularities that result from fraud is inherently more difficult than detecting those that result from error, as fraud may involve collusion, deliberate concealment, forgery or intentional misrepresentations. Also, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.
 - The team's communications in respect of potential non-compliance with relevant laws and regulations, included the potential for fraud in revenue and expenditure recognition, and the significant accounting estimates related to the valuation of level 3 investments and the IAS 26 pensions liability valuation.
 - Our assessment of the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team included consideration of the engagement team's:
 - understanding of, and practical experience with audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation
 - knowledge of the local government pensions sector
 - understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements specific to the Pension Fund including:
 - the provisions of the applicable legislation
 - guidance issued by CIPFA, LASAAC and SOLACE
 - the applicable statutory provisions.
 - In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of:
 - the Pension Fund's operations, including the nature of its income and expenditure and its services and of its objectives and strategies to understand the classes of transactions, account balances, expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement.
 - the Authority's control environment, including the policies and procedures implemented by the Authority to ensure compliance with the requirements of the financial reporting framework.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the members of the Authority, as a body, in accordance with Part 5 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Authority's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Authority and the Authority's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signature: *Paul Dossett*

Name Paul Dossett, Key Audit Partner

for and on behalf of Grant Thornton UK LLP, Local Auditor

London

Date: 22 February 2024

FUND ACCOUNT

	Notes	2021/22		2020/21	
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Dealings with members, employers and others directly involved in the scheme					
Contributions					
From Employers	7	25,568		24,180	
From Members	7	8,735		8,004	
Total Contributions			34,303		32,184
Transfers In from other Pension Funds			8,617		9,350
Benefits					
Pensions	8	(37,839)		(36,363)	
Commutation & Lump Sum Retirement Benefits	8	(10,097)		(8,164)	
Payment in respect of tax		(271)		(508)	
Total Benefits			(48,207)		(45,035)
Payments to and on account of leavers					
Transfers Out to other Pension Funds			(5,737)		(7,013)
Refunds to members leaving service			(152)		(40)
Net Additions (Withdrawals) from dealings with members			(11,176)		(10,554)
Management expenses	9		(9,915)		(8,903)
Returns on Investments					
Investment Income	10		11,170		12,327
Other Income	10		26		23
Profit and losses on disposal of investments and changes in value of investments	12		115,585		215,444
Net Return on Investments			126,781		227,794
Net Increase (Decrease) in the net assets available for benefits during the year			105,690		208,337
Opening Net Assets of the Scheme			1,219,223		1,010,886
Closing Net Assets of the Scheme			1,324,913		1,219,223

NET ASSET STATEMENT

	Notes	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Investment Assets			
Equities	11	150	150
Pooled Property Vehicles	11	87,987	61,161
Pooled Investment Vehicles	11	1,127,189	1,081,786
Private Equity / Infrastructure	11	72,202	71,863
Cash Deposits	11&12	32,104	8
Other Investment Balances			
Investment Income Due	11&12	7	13
Net Investment Assets	11	1,319,639	1,214,981
Current Assets	19	4,525	3,664
Current Liabilities	20	(2,118)	(1,100)
Cash Balances (held directly by Fund)		2,867	1,678
Net assets of the Fund available to fund benefits at the period end		1,324,913	1,219,223

The Fund's financial statements do not take account of liabilities to pay pensions and other benefits after the period end. The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is disclosed in Note 18a.

NOTES TO THE PENSION FUND ACCOUNTS

NOTE 1. DESCRIPTION OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM PENSION FUND

a) General

The Pension Fund (the Fund) is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is administered by Hammersmith and Fulham Council (the Council). It is a contributory defined benefits scheme established in accordance with statute, which provides for the payment of benefits to employees and former employees of Hammersmith and Fulham Council and the admitted and scheduled bodies in the Fund. These benefits include retirement pensions and early payment of benefits on medical grounds and payment of death benefits where death occurs either in service or in retirement. Teachers are excluded from this scheme as they are administered under the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

The benefits payable in respect of service from 1 April 2014 are based on an employee's career average revalued earnings (CARE) and the number of years of eligible service. The benefits payable in respect of service prior to 1 April 2014 are based on an employee's final salary and the number of years eligible service. Pensions are increased each year in line with the Consumer Price Index.

The Fund is governed by the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 and the following secondary legislation:

- The LGPS Regulations 2013 (as amended)
- The LGPS (Transitional Provisions, Savings and Amendment) Regulations 2014 (as amended) and
- The LGPS (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016.

The Fund is financed by contributions from employees, the Council, the admitted and scheduled bodies and from investment returns on the Fund's investment assets. Contributions from employees are made in accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013 and range from 5.5% to 12.5% of pensionable pay for the financial year ending 31 March 2022. Employer contributions are set based on the triennial actuarial funding valuation, as detailed in Note 18.

b) Pension Fund Committee

The Council has delegated the investment arrangements of the scheme to the Audit and Pensions Committee, which in December 2014 formed a Pension Fund Committee (the Committee) and delegated all pensions responsibilities to it. The Committee decides on the investment strategy most suitable to meet the liabilities of the Fund and has responsibility for the investment strategy. The Committee is made up of five members, four of whom are elected representatives of the Council with voting rights and one co-opted member. Members of the admitted bodies and representatives of the Trade Unions may attend the Committee meetings but have no voting rights.

The Committee reports annually to the Audit and Pensions Committee and has full delegated authority to make investment decisions. The Committee obtains and considers advice from the Director of Finance, and as necessary from the Fund's appointed actuary, investment managers and adviser.

c) Pensions Board

In line with the provisions of the Public Service Pensions Act 2013, the Council has set up a Local Pensions Board to oversee the governance arrangements of the Pension Fund. The Board meets twice a year and has its own Terms of Reference. Board members are independent of the Pension Fund Committee.

d) Investment Principles

In accordance with the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 the Committee approved an Investment Strategy Statement on 11 February 2020 (available on the Council's website). The Statement shows the Council's compliance with the Myner's principles of investment management.

The Committee has delegated the management of the Fund's investments to regulated investment managers (see note 11), appointed in accordance with the regulations, and whose activities are specified in detailed investment management agreements and monitored on a quarterly basis.

e) Membership

Membership of the LGPS is voluntary, and whilst employees are auto-enrolled into the scheme, they are free to choose whether to stay in or leave the scheme, or make their own personal arrangements outside the scheme.

Organisations participating in the Hammersmith & Fulham Pension Fund include:

- Scheduled bodies, which are local academies and similar bodies whose staff are automatically entitled to be members of the Fund.
- Admitted bodies, which are other organisations that participate in the Fund under an admission agreement between the Fund and the relevant organisation. Admitted bodies include voluntary, charitable and similar bodies and private contractors undertaking a local authority function following outsourcing to the private sector.

The deferred member numbers include 890 undecided leavers, who are no longer paying contributions or in receipt of benefits.

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Number of Active Employers	58	58
Contributing employees	4,856	4,467
Pensioners receiving benefit	5,804	5,425
Deferred members	6,232	6,784
Total members	16,892	16,676

Details of the scheduled and admitted bodies are included in the Fund's Annual Report.

NOTE 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Statement of Accounts summarise the Fund's transactions for 2021/22 and its position at year end as at 31 March 2022. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom 2019/20 (the Code) issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) which is based upon International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as amended for the UK public sector.

The accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis, apart from transfer values which have been accounted for on a cash basis.

The accounts do not take account of obligations to pay pensions and benefits which fall due after the end of the financial year, nor do they consider the actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits. The Code gives administering authorities the option to disclose this information in the Net Asset Statement, in the notes to the accounts or by appending an actuarial report prepared for this purpose. The Council has opted to disclose this information in a note to the accounts (Note 18).

The Hammersmith & Fulham Pension Fund is a statutory, state backed Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) that is 97% funded on a conservative basis and backed by an administering authority with tax raising powers. As such, the Pension Fund Accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis.

It is recognised that the current environment gives rise to a risk of uncertainty and volatility in investment markets and the Fund has reviewed fund manager assessments and no material uncertainty has been identified. The Fund continues to monitor cashflows and invests in a diverse range of investment vehicles including liquid assets.

NOTE 3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Fund Account – Revenue Recognition

a) Contribution Income

Normal contributions, both from active members and from the employer, are accounted for on an accruals basis at the percentage rate recommended by the actuary in the payroll period to which they relate. Employer deficit funding contributions are accounted for on the due dates on which they are due under the schedule of contributions set by the actuary or on receipt if earlier than the due date.

b) Transfers to and from other schemes

Transfer values represent the amounts received and paid during the year for members who have either joined or left the Fund during the financial year and are calculated in accordance with the LGPS Regulations. Individual transfers in/out are accounted for when received/paid, which is normally when the member liability is accepted or discharged.

c) Investment Income

Investment income arising from the underlying investments of the Pooled Investment Vehicles is either reinvested within the Pooled Investment Vehicles and reflected in the unit price or taken as a cash dividend to support the Fund's outgoing cash flow requirements.

Interest income is recognised in the fund account as it accrues, using the effective interest rate of the financial instrument as at the date of acquisition or origination.

Distributions from pooled funds are recognised at the date of issue. Any amount not received by the end of the reporting period is disclosed in the Net Assets Statement as a current financial asset. Where the amount of an income distribution has not been received from an investment manager by the balance sheet date, an estimate based upon the market value of their mandate at the end of the year is used.

Changes in the value of investments are recognised as income and comprise all realised and unrealised profits and losses during the year.

Fund Account - Expense Items

d) Benefits Payable

Pensions and lump-sum benefits payable include all amounts known to be due as at the end of the financial year. Lump sums are accounted for in the period in which the member becomes a pensioner. Any amounts due but unpaid are disclosed in the Net Assets Statement as current liabilities.

e) Taxation

The Fund is a registered public service scheme under Section 1(1) of Schedule 36 of the Finance Act 2004 and as such is exempt from UK income tax on interest received and from capital gains tax on the proceeds of investments sold. As the Council is the administering authority for the Fund, VAT input tax is recoverable on all Fund activities including expenditure on investment expenses. Where tax can be reclaimed, investment income in the accounts is shown gross of UK tax. Income from overseas investments suffers withholding tax in the country of origin unless exemption is permitted. Irrecoverable tax is accounted for as a fund expense as it arises.

f) Voluntary Scheme Pays, Mandatory Scheme Pays and lifetime allowance

Members are entitled to request that the Pension Fund pays their tax liabilities due in respect of annual allowance and lifetime allowance in exchange for a reduction in pension. Where the Fund pays member tax liabilities direct to HMRC, it is treated as an expense in the year in which the payment occurs.

g) Management Expenses

The fund discloses its pension fund management expenses in accordance with the CIPFA guidance "Accounting for Local Government Pension Scheme Management Expenses 2016".

Administrative expenses – All staff costs of the pension administration team are charged directly to the Fund. Associated management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned to this activity and charged as expenses to the Fund.

Oversight and governance – All staff costs associated with governance and oversight are charged directly to the Fund. Associated management, accommodation and other overheads are apportioned to this activity and charged as expenses to the Fund. The cost of obtaining investment advice from the external advisor is included in oversight and governance costs.

Investment management expenses – The Committee has appointed external investment managers to manage the investments of the Fund. Managers are paid a fee based on the market value of the investments they manage, and/or a fee based on performance.

Where an investment manager's fee note has not been received by the Balance Sheet date, an estimate based upon the market value of the mandate as at the end of the year is used for inclusion in the fund account.

Net Assets Statement

h) Financial Assets

Financial assets are included in the Net Assets Statement on a fair value basis as at the reporting date. A financial asset is recognised in the Net Asset Statement on the date the Fund becomes party to the contractual acquisition of the asset. From this date any gains or losses arising from changes in the value of the asset are recognised in the Fund account.

The values of investments as shown in the Net Asset Statement have been determined at fair value in accordance with the requirements of the Code and IFRS 13 (see Note 14a).

i) Derivatives

The Fund uses derivative financial instruments to manage its exposure to specific risks arising from its investment activities. The Fund does not hold derivatives for speculative purposes (see Note 14a).

j) Foreign Currency Transactions

Dividends, interest and purchases and sales of investments in foreign currencies have been accounted for at the spot market rates at the date of the transaction. End of year spot market exchange rates are used to value cash balances held in foreign currency bank accounts, market values of overseas investments and purchases and sales outstanding at the end of the reporting period.

k) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash comprises cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions which are repayable on demand without penalty.

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and that are subject to minimal risk of changes in value.

l) Financial Liabilities

A financial liability is recognised in the Net Assets Statement on the date the fund becomes party to the liability. The Fund recognises liabilities relating to investment trading at fair value as at the reporting date, and any gains or losses arising from changes in the fair value of the liability between contract date, the year-end date and the eventual settlement date are recognised in the fund account as part of the Change in Value of Investments.

Other financial liabilities classed as amortised costs are carried at amortised cost i.e. the amount carried in the Net Asset Statement is the outstanding principal repayable plus accrued interest. Any interest charged is accounted for on an accruals basis and included in administration costs.

m) Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits

The actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits is assessed on a triennial basis by the scheme actuary in accordance with the requirements of International Accounting Standard (IAS) 19 and relevant actuarial standards. As permitted under the Code, the fund has opted to disclose the actuarial present value of retirement benefits by way of a note to the Net Assets Statement (Note 18a).

n) Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVCs)

AVCs are not included in the accounts in accordance with Regulation 4(1)(b) of the Local Government Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 but are disclosed for information in Note 21. There are also some residual policies with Equitable Life, which are disclosed in Note 21, but it is not open for new members.

o) Recharges from the General Fund

The LGPS (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2016 permit the Council to charge administration costs to the Fund. A proportion of the relevant Council costs have been charged to the Fund based on actual time spent on Pension Fund business. Costs incurred in the administration and the oversight and governance of the Fund are set out separately in Note 9.

NOTE 4. CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounts may contain critical judgements, apart from those involving estimation, that management has made in the process of applying the entity's accounting policies and that have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements. Management does not deem there to be any critical judgements made in applying the entity's accounting policies.

NOTE 5. ASSUMPTIONS MADE ABOUT THE FUTURE AND OTHER MAJOR SOURCES OF UNCERTAINTY

Preparing financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities at the year-end and the amounts reported for income and expenditure during the year. Estimates and assumptions are made considering historical experience, current trends and other relevant factors. However, the nature of estimation means that the actual results could differ from the assumptions and estimates.

Description of asset	Uncertainties	Basis of valuation
Actuarial present value of promised retirement benefits (Note 18a)	Estimation of the net liability to pay pensions depends on several complex judgements relating to the discount rate used, salary increases, changes in retirement ages, mortality rates and returns on fund assets. Hymans Robertson are engaged to provide the fund with expert advice about the assumptions to be applied.	For instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 0.1% decrease in the discount rate assumption would result in an increase in promised retirement benefits of £31m• 0.1% increase in assumed earnings would increase the value of the liabilities by approximately £3m• 0.1% increase in pension increases would increase the liability by approximately £28m• A one-year increase in life expectancy would increase the liability by approximately £75m

The items for which there is a significant risk of material adjustment are:

a) Pension Fund Liability

Management has agreed a reasonable set of actuarial assumptions in consultation with the actuary which derives the total pension fund liability. The Pension Fund liability is calculated every three years by the appointed actuary with annual updates in the intervening years. The methodology used follows generally agreed guidelines and is in accordance with IAS 19. These assumptions are summarised in Note 18a. The estimates of the net liability to pay pensions depends on several judgements and assumptions. In particular, those relating to the discount rate, the rate at which salaries are projected to increase, change in retirement ages, mortality rates and expected returns on the Fund's assets.

b) Private debt/Infrastructure investments

The fair value of the Partners Group Multi Asset Credit fund and Infrastructure fund is also subject to some valuation uncertainty. Several of the underlying assets are traded in private markets only and therefore judgement needs to be made about value, using factors such as the enterprise value, net debt, discount rates, and inflation. As at 31 March 2022, the assets invested with Partners Group were valued at £53.5m (£45.9m in 2020/21).

The same applies to the Aviva Infrastructure which has a quarterly valuation cycle. As at 31 March 2022, the value of the investment was £26.6m (£25.5m in 2020/21). The impact of the uncertainty surrounding these investments has also been included in the sensitivity analysis in Note 14d.

NOTE 6. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET

There are no events after the balance sheet date.

NOTE 7. CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVABLE

Employees' contributions are calculated on a sliding scale based on a percentage of their gross pay. The administering body, scheduled bodies and admitted bodies are required to make contributions determined by the Fund's actuary to maintain the solvency of the fund.

The table below shows a breakdown of the total amount of employers' and employees' contributions.

	Employers' Contributions				Employees' Contributions	
	Normal		Deficit Recovery		2021/22	2020/21
	2021/22	2020/21	2021/22	2020/21		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Administering Authority	17,061	15,614	3,792	3,885	7,329	6,671
Scheduled Bodies	3,478	2,933	-	-	1,006	856
Admitted Bodies	1,253	1,503	(16)	245	400	477
Total	21,792	20,050	3,776	4,130	8,735	8,004
Total Contributions			25,568	24,180	8,735	8,004

NOTE 8. BENEFITS PAYABLE

The table below shows a breakdown of the total amount of benefits payable.

	Pensions		Lump sum retirement benefits		Lump sum death benefits	
	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Administering Authority	(34,701)	(33,478)	(8,294)	(6,075)	(792)	(1,071)
Scheduled Bodies	(502)	(443)	(74)	(128)	(96)	(144)
Admitted Bodies	(2,636)	(2,442)	(712)	(716)	(130)	(30)
Total	(37,839)	(36,363)	(9,080)	(6,919)	(1,017)	(1,245)
Total Lump Sum Benefits					(10,097)	(8,164)

NOTE 9. MANAGEMENT EXPENSES

The table below shows a breakdown of the management expenses incurred during the year.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Administrative costs	(1,225)	(536)
Investment management expenses	(8,406)	(7,533)
Oversight and governance costs	(284)	(834)
	(9,915)	(8,903)

*after bringing certain fund administration roles in-house the administrative costs have increased and the oversight and governance costs have decreased

The table below provides a breakdown of the Investment Management Expenses.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Management fees	(6,431)	(5,446)
Performance fees	(79)	(257)
Transaction costs	(1,845)	(1,764)
Custody fees	(51)	(66)
	(8,406)	(7,533)

NOTE 10. INVESTMENT INCOME

The table below shows a breakdown of investment income.

	2021/22 £000	2020/21 £000
Pooled investments - unit trusts and other managed funds	8,037	5,930
Income from Alternative Investments	3,129	6,387
Interest on Cash Deposits	4	10
Other Investment Income	26	23
Total	11,196	12,350

NOTE 11. INVESTMENT STRATEGY

During 2021/22 the Fund's investment strategy had the following developments:

- In July 2021, the Fund had its first capital call from Man Group and has since committed £9.7m of a total commitment of £30m.
- In January 2022, the Pension Fund fully funded its commitment of £32m in Darwin Alternatives.

In August 2015, the Fund made a commitment to the Partners Group Direct Infrastructure fund. As at 31 March 2022 €12.1m (£10.2m) still remained unfunded.

As shareholders of London LGPS CIV Ltd, (the organisation set up to run pooled LGPS investments in London) the Fund has funded £150,000 of regulatory capital. This is in the form of unlisted UK equity shares. The Fund has been active in the transfer of assets under management to the London Collective Investment Vehicle (LCIV) to gain efficiencies and fee reductions. As at 31 March 2022, the Fund had £965m invested with the London CIV, which accounts for 73.1% of the fund's total assets.

The market value and proportion of investments managed by each fund manager at 31 March 2022 was as follows:

	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	Market Value £000	Total %	Market Value £000	Total %
Investments managed by the London CIV asset pool				
LGIM - MSCI Low Carbon (Passive)	405,364	30.7%	381,252	31.4%
Ruffer - Absolute Return (Active)	270,935	20.5%	280,677	23.1%
PIMCO - Global Bonds (Active)	99,766	7.6%	107,333	8.8%
Morgan Stanley - Global Sustain Fund	188,554	14.3%	174,776	14.4%
	964,619	73.10%	944,038	77.71%
Investments managed outside of the London CIV asset pool				
Darwin Alternatives - Leisure Fund	32,582	2.5%	-	0.0%
Man Group - Affordable Housing	18,231	1.4%	-	0.0%
Oak Hill Advisers - Secured Income (Active)	66,283	5.0%	80,034	6.6%
Abrdn - Long Lease Property	69,756	5.3%	61,161	5.0%
Aviva - Private Infrastructure	26,596	2.0%	25,546	2.1%
Partners Group - Infrastructure	45,468	3.4%	31,956	2.6%
Partners Group - Multi Asset Private Credit	7,986	0.6%	13,896	1.1%
Invesco - Private Equity	-	0.0%	47	0.0%
Unigestion - Private Equity	138	0.0%	418	0.0%
Inhouse Cash - Cash	32,111	2.4%	21	0.0%
London CIV Ltd	150	0.0%	150	0.0%
NT Ultra Short Bond Fund	1	0.0%	1,999	0.2%
Abrdn - MSPC	55,718	4.2%	55,715	4.6%
	355,020	26.9%	270,943	22.3%
	1,319,639	100.0%	1,214,981	100.0%

The table below shows the Fund investments which exceed 5% of net assets. These are all pooled investment vehicles, which are made up of underlying investments, each of which represent substantially less than 5%.

	31 March 2022		31 March 2021	
	Market Value	Total	Market Value	Total
	£000	%	£000	%
LGIM - MSCI Low Carbon (Passive)	405,364	30.7%	381,252	31.4%
Ruffer - Absolute Return (Active)	270,935	20.5%	280,677	23.1%
PIMCO - Global Bonds (Active)	99,766	7.6%	107,333	8.8%
Oak Hill Advisers - Secured Income (Active)	66,283	5.0%	80,034	6.6%
Abrdn - Long Lease Property	69,756	5.3%	61,161	5.0%
Morgan Stanley - Global Sustain Fund	188,554	14.3%	174,776	14.4%

NOTE 12. RECONCILIATION OF MOVEMENT IN INVESTMENTS

The table below shows a reconciliation of the movement in the total investment assets of the Fund by asset class during 2021/22.

Fund Manager	Value at 1 April 2021 £000	Purchases during the year and derivative payments £000	Sales during the year and derivative receipts £000	Change in market value during the year £000	Value at 31 March 2022 £000
Equities	150	-	-	-	150
Pooled Investment Vehicles	1,081,786	32,000	(83,896)	97,299	1,127,189
Pooled property investments	61,162	24,598	(6,112)	8,339	87,987
Private equity/infrastructure	71,863	6,717	(16,321)	9,943	72,202
Sub-total	1,214,961	63,315	(106,329)	115,581	1,287,528
Cash Deposits	8			(1)	32,104
Investment income due	13			-	7
Spot FX contracts	-			5	-
Totals	1,214,982	63,315	(106,329)	115,585	1,319,639

The equivalent analysis for 2020/21 is provided below:

Fund Manager	Value at 1 April 2020	Purchases during the year and derivative payments	Sales during the year and derivative receipts	Change in market value during the year	Value at 31 March 2021
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Equities	150	-	-	-	150
Pooled Equity Investments	817,356	172,443	(122,534)	214,521	1,081,786
Pooled property investments	58,881	44	-	2,236	61,161
Private equity/infrastructure	70,555	7,659	(5,186)	(1,165)	71,863
Sub-total	946,942	180,146	(127,720)	215,592	1,214,960
Cash Deposits	59,524			(160)	8
Investment income due	26			-	13
Spot FX contracts	-			12	-
Totals	1,006,492	180,146	(127,720)	215,444	1,214,981

Between 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years one of the categories changed from 'Pooled Equity Investments' to 'Pooled Investment Vehicles.' From 2021/22, the Partners MSPC product was reclassified from 'Private Equity/Infrastructure' category to the 'Pooled Investment Vehicles' grouping. This is because, when the investments were reviewed alongside the new headings, it was decided that this was a more suitable categorisation for the investment's characteristics. This will mean that there is a difference in opening balances.

NOTE 13. FAIR VALUE BASIS OF VALUATION

The basis of the valuation of each class of investment asset is set out below. There has been no change in the valuation techniques used during the year. All assets have been valued using fair value techniques which represent the highest and best price available at the reporting date.

Description of asset	Investment Manager	Valuation hierarchy	Basis of valuation	Observable and unobservable inputs	Key sensitivities affecting the valuations provided
Pooled Investments - Equity funds UK and Overseas Managed Funds	LGIM – MSCI Low Carbon Ruffer – Absolute Return Fund Morgan Stanley – Global Sustain Fund	Level 2	The NAV for each share class is calculated based on the market value of the underlying equity assets	Evaluated price feeds	Not required
Unquoted bonds and unit trusts	PIMCO – Global Bonds Oak Hill Advisors NT - Ultra Short Bond	Level 2	Fixed income securities are priced based on evaluated prices provided by independent pricing services	Evaluated price feeds	Not required

Pooled Long Lease Property Fund	Abrdn- Long Lease Property	Level 2	The Aberdeen Standard Long Lease Property Fund is priced on a Single Swinging Price	In house evaluation of market data	Not required
Private equity	Unigestion	Level 3	Comparable valuation of similar companies in accordance with International Private and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines 2012	Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation (EBITDA) multiple Revenue multiple	Valuations could be affected by changes to expected cashflows, cost of replacing key business assets, or by any differences between the audited and unaudited accounts
Infrastructure funds	Partners Group – Infrastructure Aviva Infrastructure	Level 3	Valued by Fund Managers at the lower of cost and fair value.	Managers use their judgement having regard to the Equity and Venture Capital Valuation Guidelines 2012 guidelines noted above	Upward valuations are only considered where there is validation of the investment objectives, and such progress can be demonstrated Downward valuations are enacted where the manager considers there is an impairment to the underlying investment
Illiquid Alternatives	Darwin Alternatives Man Group Abrdn – MSPC Partners - MSPC	Level 3	Valued by Fund Managers at the lower of cost and fair value.	In house evaluation of market data	Valuations could be affected by changes to expected cashflows, cost of replacing key business assets, or by any differences between the audited and unaudited accounts

Aviva Infrastructure

One of the LBHF Pension Fund’s infrastructure investment managers, Aviva, were facing legal challenge from a former construction contractor relating to a contractual dispute on one of their biomass infrastructure projects.

Within the manager’s financial statements at 31 December 2019, 31 December 2020, 31 December 2021, and 31 December 2022, fund management were unable to quantify the financial impact of the challenge, thus placing a degree of uncertainty on the value of the portfolio overall. As such the underlying accounts were qualified by the auditors.

The full and final value of the legal dispute has now been settled and with an additional amount of associated costs the total impact for the investment will be c.£46.7m.

On the 20th of June 2022, the committee voted to disinvest from the Aviva fund with the redemption documents being submitted prior to the 30th of June 2022 deadline for redemptions. The disinvested monies are anticipated to be received by LBHF Pension by the end of 2024 with the first tranche of redemption monies paid in January 2024. The carrying value of the total infrastructure portfolio in the LBHF Pension Fund is £26m.

Having carefully considered this fund’s financial statements, audit opinion and LBHF Pension Fund’s holding in the fund being under redemption procedure, officers do not consider that this could result in any material uncertainty in the context of LBHF’s total pension fund value. This is because the maximum value of the claims lodged are approximately 3% of the total portfolio value of the underlying Aviva fund and officers do not consider that there will be any further legal challenge/ claims that could result in a material uncertainty both in terms of containment within this particular investment and disclosures in the wider financial statements.

Cash Classification

For the Fund, cash at custodian is simply a sweep from the custodian into a nominated Money Market Fund and an overnight rate paid. The full cash amount needs to be available for potential investment/withdrawal the next morning and is purely there to service investment and payment of pensions. It is therefore understood that this cash should be amortised cost. It is however not correct to assume cash would always be amortised cost. When an investment committee has taken an active decision to hold cash as part of its asset allocation and invests in a liquidity fund there would almost certainly be duration and variable NAV, in this circumstance we would expect the IFRS9 treatment to be Fair Value at Profit and Loss.

NOTE 14a. VALUATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS CARRIED AT FAIR VALUE

The valuation of financial instruments has been classified into three levels, according to the quality and reliability of information used to determine fair values. The definitions of the levels are detailed below.

Level 1 – Fair values are derived from unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities. Examples are quoted equities, quoted index linked securities and unit trusts. All level 1 investments are shown at bid prices. The bid value of the investment is based on the bid market quotation of the relevant stock exchange.

Level 2 – Quoted prices are not available for financial instruments at this level. The valuation techniques used to determine fair value use inputs that are based significantly on observable market data.

Level 3 – Financial instruments at Level 3 are those where at least one input that could have a significant effect on the instrument's valuation is not based on observable market data e.g. private equity investments.

The values of the private equity investments are based on valuations provided by the General Partners to the private equity funds. The Partners Group Multi Asset Credit and Infrastructure funds are closed ended and therefore not tradable. The valuation is based on market prices where available for some underlying assets and on estimates of prices in secondary markets for others.

	31 March 2022			31 March 2021		
	Quoted Market Price Level 1	Using observable Level 2	With significant Level 3	Quoted Market Price Level 1	Using observable Level 2	With significant Level 3
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Financial Assets						
Designated at fair value through profit and loss	-	1,100,659	186,869	-	1,142,947	72,013
Total Financial Assets	-	1,100,659	186,869	-	1,142,947	72,013
Financial Liabilities						
Designated at fair value through profit and loss	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Financial Liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Financial Assets	-	1,100,659	186,869	-	1,142,947	72,013
			1,287,528			1,214,960

NOTE 14b. TRANSFERS BETWEEN LEVELS 1 AND 2

In 2021/22, the Fund's operational activity resulted in no transfers between Levels 1 and 2.

NOTE 14c. RECONCILIATION OF FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS WITHIN LEVEL 3

	Market Value as at 31 March 2021 £000	Purchases £000	Sales £000	Unrealised gains / (losses) £000	Realised gains / (losses) £000	Market Value as at 31 March 2022 £000
Overseas Infrastructure	32,421	6,717	(312)	6,615	165	45,606
UK Infrastructure	25,546	-	-	1,050	-	26,596
Private Credit	69,830	24,543	(14,771)	2,332	-	81,934
London LGPS CIV	150	-	-	-	-	150
Illiquid Alternatives	-	32,000	-	582	-	32,582
Total	127,947	63,260	(15,083)	10,579	165	186,869

NOTE 14d. SENSITIVITY OF ASSETS VALUED AT LEVEL 3

A change in assumptions for one or more unobservable inputs used to calculate the reported valuations as at 31 March 2022 has been estimated to impact the valuations within the following ranges. Movements in the reported valuation within this range may result in a material adjustment to the carrying value of these assets for the following year.

Having analysed historical data and current market trends, and consulted with independent investment advisors, the Fund has determined that the valuation methods referenced above are likely to be accurate to within the following ranges and has set out below the consequential potential impact on the closing value of investments held at 31 March 2021 and 31 March 2022.

The potential impact on the reported valuations as at 31 March 2022 has been estimated to be accurate within the below ranges:

Description of assets	Assessed Valuation Range (+)	Assessed Valuation Range (-)	Value at 31 March 2022 £000	Value on increase £000	Value on decrease £000
Aviva - Private Infrastructure	8.20%	7.20%	26,596	28,777	24,681
Partners Group - Infrastructure	9.16%	9.16%	45,468	49,633	41,303
Partners Group - Multi Asset Private Credit	6.55%	6.55%	7,986	8,509	7,463
Darwin Alternatives - Leisure Fund	10.00%	8.80%	32,582	35,840	29,715
Abrdn MSPC	3.94%	3.94%	55,718	57,913	53,523
Man Group - Affordable Housing	10.30%	11.30%	18,231	20,109	16,171
Total			186,581	200,781	172,856

*Three assets (totalling £0.288m) have been excluded from this note due to immateriality.

NOTE 15a. CLASSIFICATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The following table analyses the carrying amounts of financial assets and liabilities split by UK and Overseas, by category and Net Assets Statement heading as at the balance sheet date. All investments are quoted unless stated.

	31 March 2022			31 March 2021		
	Designated at fair value through profit & loss £000	Financial assets at amortised cost £000	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost £000	Designated at fair value through profit & loss £000	Financial assets at amortised cost £000	Financial Liabilities at amortised cost £000
FINANCIAL ASSETS						
Index Linked Securities						
<i>Pooled Investment Vehicles:</i>						
UK equity funds	864,853	-	-	836,705	-	-
UK fixed income fund	163,471	-	-	178,943	-	-
UK property fund	120,569	-	-	61,162	-	-
UK infrastructure	26,596	-	-	25,546	-	-
Overseas fixed income fund	66,283	-	-	80,034	-	-
Overseas infrastructure	45,468	-	-	31,956	-	-
Overseas venture capital	138	-	-	464	-	-
London LGPS CIV	150	-	-	150	-	-
Investment income due	-	6	-	-	13	-
Cash deposits with managers	-	32,105	-	-	8	-
Debtors	-	4,525	-	-	3,664	-
Cash balances (held by fund)	-	2,867	-	-	1,678	-
	1,287,528	39,503	-	1,214,960	5,363	-
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES						
Creditors	-	-	(2,118)	-	-	(1,100)
	-	-	(2,118)	-	-	(1,100)
GRAND TOTALS	1,287,528	39,503	(2,118)	1,214,960	5,363	(1,100)
			1,324,913			1,219,223

NOTE 15b. NET GAINS AND LOSSES ON FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

This table summarises the net gains and losses on financial instruments classified by type of instrument.

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Financial Assets		
Fair value through profit and loss	115,581	215,592
Loans and receivables	5	12
Financial Liabilities		
Fair value through profit and loss	(1)	(160)
	115,585	215,444

NOTE 16. NATURE AND EXTENT OF RISKS ARISING FROM FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Fund's primary long-term risk is that the Fund's assets will fall short of its liabilities. The Fund's liabilities are sensitive to inflation through pension and pay increases, interest rates and mortality rates. The assets that would most closely match the liabilities are a combination of index-linked gilts, as the liabilities move in accordance with changes in the relevant gilt yields and changes in inflation.

The Pension Fund Committee maintains a Pension Fund risk register and reviews the risks and appropriate mitigating actions at every meeting.

a) Market Risk

In order to meet the Fund's objective of being fully funded within the next 21 years, based on the 2019 actuarial valuation deficit recovery plan, the fund managers have been set differing targets appropriate to the types of assets they manage. As such, the Fund continues to invest its assets in a broad range of asset classes in terms of geographical and industry sectors and individual securities which are expected to produce returns above their benchmarks over the long term, albeit with greater volatility. This diversification reduces exposure to market risk (price risk, currency risk and interest rate risk) and credit risk to an acceptable level.

The aim of the investment strategy is to maximise the opportunity for gains across the whole Fund's portfolio within a tolerable level of risk of an overall reduction in the value of the Fund. Responsibility for the Fund's investment strategy rests with the Pension Fund Committee and is reviewed on a regular basis.

On 24 February 2022, Russia invaded Ukraine, a severe escalation in the conflict which had been ongoing since 2014. Subsequently, numerous global powers implemented sanctions against major Russian banks and financial institutions, including freezing of overseas assets and removing access to SWIFT international payments. The Pension Fund can report that as at 31 March 2022, the value of investments in Russia or Ukraine is immaterial.

b) Price Risk

Price risk represents the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices (other than those arising from interest rate risk or foreign exchange risk), whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual instrument or its issuer, or factors affecting all such instruments in the market.

The Fund is exposed to price risk. This arises from investments held by the Fund for which the future price is uncertain. All securities represent a risk of loss of capital. The maximum risk resulting from financial instruments (with the exception of the derivatives where the risk is currency related) is determined by the fair value of the financial instruments. The Fund's investment managers aim to mitigate this price risk through diversification and the selection of securities and other financial instruments.

All assets except for cash, forward foreign exchange contracts, other investment balances, debtors and creditors are exposed to price risk. The table below shows the value of these assets at the balance sheet date (and the prior year) and what the value would have been if prices had been 9.4% higher or 9.4% lower.

Assets exposed to price risk

	Value £000	Price Risk	Positive increase £000	Negative increase £000
At 31st March 2022	1,322,506	9.4%	1,447,181	1,197,831
At 31st March 2021	1,214,960	10.9%	1,347,392	1,082,530

c) Interest Rate Risk

The Fund invests in financial assets for the primary purpose of obtaining a return on its investments. Fixed Interest securities and cash are subject to interest rate risks, which represent the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. The Fund recognises that interest rates can vary and can affect both income to the Fund and the value of the net assets available to pay benefits.

Fixed income investments, cash and some elements of the pooled investment vehicles are exposed to interest rate risk. The table below shows the value of these assets at 31 March 2022 and what the value would have been if interest rates had been 1% higher or 1% lower.

Assets exposed to interest rate risk

	Value	+ 1%	- 1%
	£000	£000	£000
At 31st March 2022	341,107	331,880	348,737
At 31st March 2021	363,074	348,918	377,231

d) Currency Risk

Currency risk represents the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The Fund is exposed to currency risk on financial instruments that are denominated in any currency other than pounds sterling.

The Fund recognises that a strengthening/weakening of the pound against the various currencies in which the Fund holds investments would increase/decrease the net assets available to pay benefits.

In order to mitigate the risk, one of the Fund's investment managers enters into forward foreign exchange contracts (accounted for as derivatives) to hedge the currency risk which arises from undertaking non-sterling transactions. In addition, several of the pooled investment vehicles partially or fully hedge the currency back into sterling. These actions reduce the overall currency risk the Fund is exposed to.

Assets exposed to currency risk

	Value	Currency Risk	Positive increase	Negative increase
	£000		£000	£000
At 31st March 2022	739,360	6.8%	789,358	689,363
At 31st March 2021	869,126	5.2%	914,155	824,097

e) Credit Risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to a transaction or a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss. The market values of investments generally reflect an assessment of credit in their pricing and consequently the risk of loss is implicitly provided for in the carrying value of the Fund's financial assets and liabilities.

In essence, the Fund's entire investment portfolio is exposed to some form of credit risk. However, the selection of high-quality fund managers, counterparties, brokers and financial institutions minimises credit risk that may occur through the failure to settle a transaction in a timely manner.

f) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk represents the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its financial obligations as they fall due. The Fund therefore takes steps to ensure that there are adequate cash resources to meet its commitments. This will particularly be the case for cash to meet the pensioner payroll costs, and cash to meet investment commitments. The Fund has immediate access to its cash holdings.

The only assets in the Fund which cannot be liquidated within a month are detailed in the table below. These amounted to 13.2% of the Fund's Net Assets at 31 March 2022 (8.85% at 31 March 2021). The remaining assets can all be liquidated within days.

Manager	Portfolio	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
		£000	£000
Standard Life	Property	69,756	61,162
Partners Group	Infrastructure	45,468	31,956
Partners Group	Multi Asset Credit	7,986	13,896
Invesco	Private Equity	-	47
Unigestion	Private Equity	138	417
Darwin Alternatives	Illiquid Alternatives	32,582	-
Man Group	Property	18,231	-
		174,161	107,478

NOTE 17. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS

The Fund had the following commitments at the balance sheet date:

	31 March 2022 £000	31 March 2021 £000
Alpha Real Capital	60,000	-
Man Group - Affordable Housing	9,969	-
Partners Group Direct Infrastructure Fund 2015	10,193	16,936
	80,162	16,936

NOTE 18. FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS

The Scheme Regulations require that a full actuarial valuation is carried out every third year. The purpose of this is to establish that the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham Pension Fund is able to meet its liabilities to past and present contributors and to review employer contribution rates.

The latest full triennial valuation of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham Pension Fund was carried out by Barnett Waddingham, the Fund's actuary, as at 31 March 2019 in accordance with the Funding Strategy Statement of the Fund and the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations 2013. The results were published in the triennial valuation report dated 29 January 2020. This valuation set the employer contribution rates from 1 April 2020 through to 31 March 2023.

The 2019 valuation certified a common contribution rate of 17.4% of pensionable pay (15.5% as at March 2016) to be paid by each employing body participating in the Fund, based on a funding level of 97% (88% as at March 2016). In addition, each employing body must pay an individual adjustment to reflect its own particular circumstances and funding position within the Fund. Details of each employer's contribution rate are contained in the Statement to the Rates and Adjustment Certificate in the triennial valuation report.

The actuary's smoothed market value of the scheme's assets at 31 March 2019 was £1,043m (£851m 2016) and the actuary assessed the present value of the funded obligation at £1,079m indicating a net liability of £35m (£965m 2016).

The actuarial valuation, carried out using the projected unit method, is based on economic and statistical assumptions, the main ones being:

Financial Assumptions	March 2019	March 2016
Consumer Price Index (CPI) increases	2.60%	2.40%
Salary Increases	3.60%	3.90%
Pension Increases	2.40%	2.40%
Discount Rate	5.00%	5.40%

Both the Local Government Pension Scheme and discretionary benefits liabilities have been assessed by Barnett Waddingham LLP, an independent firm of actuaries. Estimates for the Pension Fund are based on the full valuation of the scheme as at 31 March 2019. The next actuarial valuation of the Fund will be carried out as at 31 March 2022 and will set contribution rates for the period 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2026.

The contribution rate is set on the basis of the cost of future benefit accrual, increased to bring the funding level back to 100% over a period of 19 years, as set out in the Funding Strategy Statement. It is set to be sufficient to meet the additional annual accrual of benefits allowing for future pay increases and increases to pension payments when these fall due, plus an amount to reflect each participating employer's notional share of value of the Fund's assets compared with 100% of their liabilities in the Fund in respect of service to the valuation date.

NOTE 18a. ACTUARIAL PRESENT VALUE OF PROMISED RETIREMENT BENEFITS

The table below shows the total net liability of the Fund as at 31 March 2022. The figures have been prepared by Hymans Robertson, the Fund's actuary, only for the purposes of providing the information required by IAS26. In particular, they are not relevant for calculations undertaken for funding purposes or for other statutory purposes under UK pensions legislation.

In calculating the required numbers, the actuary adopted methods and assumptions that are consistent with IAS19.

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Present Value of Promised Retirement Benefits*	(1,808,000)	(1,923,604)
Fair Value of Scheme Assets (bid value)	1,324,913	1,216,634
Net Liability	(483,087)	(706,970)

The assumptions applied by the actuary are set out below:

Financial Assumptions

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Salary increases	4.20%	3.80%
Pension increases	3.20%	2.80%
Discount Rate	2.70%	2.00%

Demographic Assumptions

Life expectancy is based on the Fund's VitaCurves with improvements in line with the CMI 2021 model, with a 0% weighting of 2021 (and 2020) data, standard smoothing (Sk7), initial adjustment of 0.25% and a long-term rate of improvement of 1.5% p.a. Based on these assumptions, the average future life expectancies at age 65 are summarised below:

Life Expectancy from age 65

		31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Retiring today	Males	22.1	21.6
	Females	24.7	24.3
Retiring in 20 years	Males	23.2	22.9
	Females	26.1	25.7

NOTE 19. CURRENT ASSETS

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Debtors		
Contributions due - employers	1,620	1,370
Contributions due - employees	704	549
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham	96	941
Sundry debtors	2105	804
	4,525	3,664

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Analysis of debtors		
Local authorities	96	941
Other entities and individuals	4,087	2,560
Central Government	342	163
	4,525	3,664

NOTE 20. CURRENT LIABILITIES

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Creditors	£000	£000
Unpaid Benefits	(562)	(589)
Management Expenses	(843)	(426)
Sundry creditors	(713)	(85)
	(2,118)	(1,100)

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
Analysis of creditors	£000	£000
Other entities and individuals	(2,118)	(1,100)
	(2,118)	(1,100)

NOTE 21. ADDITIONAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS (AVCs)

The Fund's AVC providers are Scottish Widows Workplace Savings and Utmost Life and Pensions. AVCs are invested separately from the Pension Fund and their valuations are shown in the table below.

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Scottish Widows Workplace Savings		
Market Value at 31st March	917	908
Contributions during the year	11	7
Utmost Life and Pensions		
Market Value at 31st March	176	191
Contributions during the year	-	-

Scottish Widows Workplace savings had 48 members in 2021/22 (51 in 2020/21). Utmost Life and Pensions had 21 members in 2021/22 (27 in 2020/21).

In accordance with Regulation 4(1)(b) of the Pension Scheme (Management and Investment of Funds) Regulations 2009 the contributions paid and the investments are not included in the Pension Fund Accounts.

The AVC providers secure benefits on a money purchase basis for those members electing to pay AVCs. Members of the AVC schemes each receive an annual statement confirming the amounts held in their account and the movements in the year. The Fund relies on individual contributors to check that deductions are accurately reflected in the statements provided by the AVC provider.

NOTE 22. RELATED PARTIES

London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

The Pension Fund is administered by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. The Council incurred costs of £0.637m in 2021/22 (£0.542m in 2020/21) in relation to the administration of the Fund and were reimbursed by the Fund for the expenses. The Council made £20.9m of contributions in year (£19.5m in 2020/21).

The Pension Fund's accounting and governance management is carried out through a shared service with Westminster City Council. Westminster City Council incurred costs of £0.174m in 2021/22 (£0.172m in 2020/21) in relation to the accounting and governance of the Fund and were reimbursed for the expense.

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Fund are the Members of the Pension Fund Committee, the Strategic Director of Finance and Governance (from May 2020, the Director of Finance), the Tri-Borough Director of Treasury and Pensions and the Director of Corporate Services (from May 2020, the Director of Resources). Total remuneration payable to key management personnel in respect of the pension fund is set out below:

	31 March 2022	31 March 2021
	£000	£000
Short-term benefits	32	30
Post-employment benefits	(30)	95
	2	125

NOTE 23. EXTERNAL AUDIT COSTS

The external audit fee payable to Fund's external auditors, Grant Thornton LLP, was £33,000 (£33,000 in 2020/21).

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021/22

1.0 Introduction

Hammersmith & Fulham borough is a fantastic, thriving place to live, visit and do business. We have recovered well following the worst effects of the Coronavirus pandemic and, looking forward, the borough is on the up again with great promise on the horizon.

Residents of the borough deserve high-quality services they can rely on. The cost of living is hitting residents hard - and many are worried about growing unfairness and rising costs. This threatens what we want for the future. Hammersmith & Fulham Council (H&F) manage our finances responsibly and relentlessly challenge unfairness, waste and old-fashioned thinking. We are a different kind of council – pioneering and ceaselessly searching for better answers. We'll keep listening and working with residents and finding creative ways to take us forward, including in responding to national and international challenges.

Our vision is ambitious and it is therefore essential that our local residents, businesses, service users, suppliers and partners all have confidence in our governance arrangements and the way we fully account for the money we receive and how we spend it. Our ways of working enable us to provide the right services and responses effectively, efficiently and consistently – supporting us to take informed, transparent and lawful decisions.

To strengthen our vision, and inform how H&F operates, we have six underpinning values for the organisation:

- Doing things with residents, not to them
- Being ruthlessly financially efficient
- Building shared prosperity
- Creating a compassionate council
- Taking pride in Hammersmith & Fulham
- Rising to the challenge of the climate and ecological emergency.

We have a fantastic record of keeping council tax and charges to residents low – we are one of just two London councils to freeze council tax again for 2022/23 – while spending more on vital front-line services such as Children's Services and Adult Social Care (ASC). We are a modernising and innovative organisation that has developed more efficient practices, cut waste, and sought new ways to achieve savings during the pandemic. A state-of-the-art Civic Campus is under development in Hammersmith, which will be a hub for flourishing civic renewal, resident and community participation, young people, and entrepreneurs to generate opportunity and shared prosperity.

Our delivery is set in the context of major negative impacts of:

- Significant cut in government funding between 2010/11 to 2022/23 (reducing by £57m or 54% in real terms) and an increase in our costs due to the effects of inflation
- The Coronavirus global health emergency
- Global economic uncertainty with the war in Ukraine
- Climate change, global warming and extreme weather events
- Significant increases in fuel and energy costs leading to higher levels of fuel poverty.

Our Annual Governance Statement (AGS) demonstrates how we continually prioritise strong governance arrangements, ensuring robust and accountable delivery against the priorities of local residents, service users and businesses. We do this by co-producing services and policies with residents, engaging with residents and stakeholders and upholding high standards of conduct and behaviour. H&F has clear policies in place to define standards of behaviour for members and staff. Proactive risk and assurance management arrangements are central to our governance approach and the efficient delivery of H&F's key objectives.

2.0 Hammersmith & Fulham's (H&F) corporate governance responsibilities

H&F's corporate governance arrangements aim to ensure we uphold our values and do the right things for residents through effective processes and controls; being timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable in the way we act. This includes ensuring we conduct our business in accordance with the law and to proper standards, and that public money is properly accounted for and used effectively.

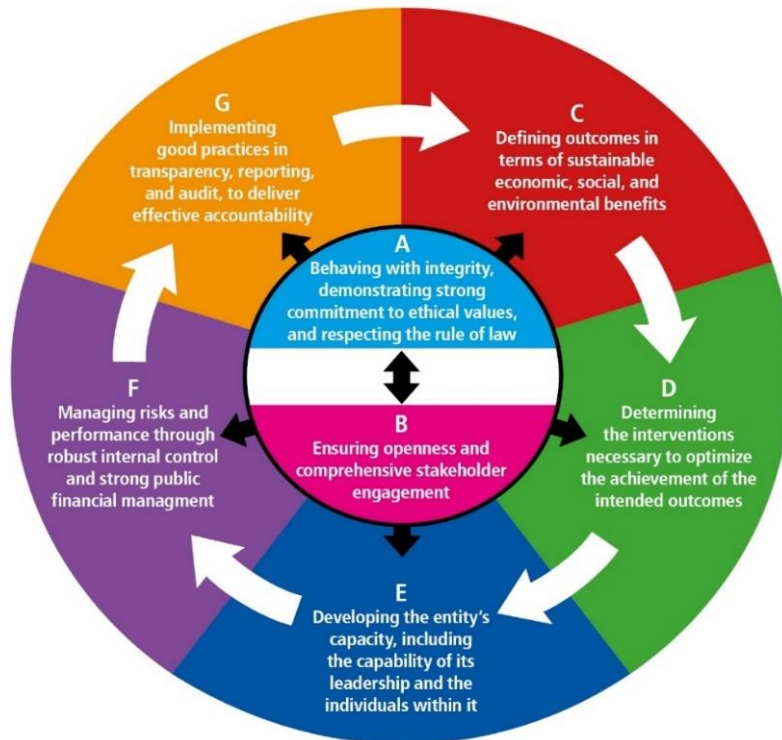
The AGS has been prepared in accordance with guidance and principles produced by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) and the Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers (SOLACE), the 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework'. The main, underpinning principle of the framework is that local authorities must shape their own approach to governance, seeking to deliver sustainable economic, social and environmental outcomes. The framework is intended to assist authorities in reviewing and accounting for their own unique approach, incorporating agreed policy, accountability and decision-making which is sound and inclusive. It embraces the elements of internal control required by the 'Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom'.

The CIPFA Financial Management Code (FM Code) was introduced in October 2019 as the first professional code for general financial management in local authorities. The FM Code provides guidance for good and sustainable financial management and compliance and also provides assurance that resources are being managed effectively. Compliance with the FM Code helps to strengthen the framework that surrounds financial decision making across the Council.

3.0 What this Statement tells you

The AGS describes how H&F has, for the year ended 31 March 2022, complied with its Governance Code and the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015. It also describes how the effectiveness of the governance arrangements have been monitored and evaluated during the year and sets out any changes planned for 2022/23.

The following diagram provides a summary of information on the areas that the AGS has considered in accordance with the CIPFA/ SOLACE 'Delivering Good Governance in Local Government Framework' principles.



4.0 The governance framework

The governance framework enables us to monitor the achievement of our objectives and to consider whether these have led to the delivery of appropriate, cost-effective services. As we improve the way we provide services, it is important that the governance arrangements are robust and flexible enough to manage this.

A detailed overview of our governance framework is provided at Appendix A. In summary, it includes:

- **H&F's Constitution** – This sets out how H&F operates, how decisions are made and the procedures for ensuring that we are efficient, transparent, and accountable to residents. It sets out the functions of statutory officers and explains their role in ensuring statutory obligations are met. The Constitution outlines the basic rules governing H&F's business, and a section on responsibility for functions including a list of functions which may be exercised by officers. It also contains the rules, protocols and codes of practice under which H&F, its Members and officers operate.

The Member code of conduct has been reviewed recently. H&F has a Code of Conduct for employees and a whistleblowing policy, which are reviewed periodically. These policies and associated practices set out expectations for officers and Members to behave with integrity and H&F's strong commitment to ethical values and rule of law. All policies are available on the Council's intranet and easily accessible to staff. H&F's annual appraisal process asks staff to re-affirm they have no conflicts of interest and that they are familiar with the council's code of conduct and behaviours framework, with links to the relevant policies and guidance provided.

- **Local Code of Corporate Governance** – This identifies our principles of good governance and the structures, systems and processes that we have established for good governance. This can be found within the H&F Constitution.
- **Policy and Accountability Committees (PACs)** – H&F's statutory overview and scrutiny function was provided in 2021/22 through PACs covering all of our major service areas. The PACs are part of our commitment to public engagement and working with residents in developing policy and strengthening H&F's decision-making process. In 2021/22, the PACs continued to meet via remote meetings.
- **Risk management framework** – This is fundamental to H&F's system of internal control and forms part of a sound business operating model. It involves an ongoing process to identify the risks to our policies, aims and objectives and to prioritise them according to likelihood and impact. It also requires the risks to be managed efficiently, effectively and economically. The corporate risk register is reviewed quarterly and challenged by senior management and the Audit Committee. Thematic or programme risk registers are created in respect of emerging risk areas. In 2021/22, this included important areas of the Covid-19 vaccination programme, enhancing H&F's cyber security resilience and its preparedness for severe weather and terrorist incidents. The invasion of Ukraine towards the end of the financial year caused escalation in some risks, including economy/supply chain and cyber security.
- **Audit and external inspection assurances** – H&F is externally audited. The Internal Audit service is a key means of assurance and reviews the adequacy of the controls throughout all areas of the council. Council services are also subject to statutory external inspections. During the latter half of 2021/22, some external inspections re-started with the lifting of restrictions from the Covid-19 pandemic. Throughout the year, including periods of no external inspections, H&F continued to meet its statutory duties.
- **Strategic leadership and assurance** - H&F's most senior management team is the Strategic Leadership Team (SLT), made up of the Chief Executive (who is the Head of the Paid Service and appointed by Full Council) and six departmental Directors. Each Director has key areas of responsibility, but together they are jointly responsible (under the Chief Executive) for turning priorities set by the Cabinet into operational policy. Over the past 12 months, the Chief Executive, SLT and elected members have continued to meet to build assurance capability of the council, providing leadership on standards, expectations and strengthening assurance regimes, ways of working and approaches. This has been done through management boards. SLT has regular weekly thematic meetings focussed on business decisions, assurance and finance. This is supported by the Statutory Accountabilities Board (SAB) made up of the statutory officers of the Council (Head of Paid Service, Section 151 Officer, Monitoring Officer, Director of Children's Services, Director of Adult Social Care and Director of Public Health). It provides management arrangements to allow the statutory officers to work together to ensure that corporately there are appropriate and coordinated governance arrangements in place for the effective delivery of statutory functions. The responsibilities of the statutory officers are also outlined in H&F's constitution.
- **Commissioning and procurement of goods and services** - The effective commissioning and procurement of goods, works and services is of strategic importance to our operations, while contract management helps to provide value for money and ensure that outcomes and outputs are delivered. Contract Standing Orders form part of H&F's Constitution.

H&F agreed at Cabinet, in 2021/22, to the West London Alliance joint approach to carbon-neutral procurement. The WLA is a partnership of seven West London councils committed to a programme of sharing best practice, collaboration, and innovation.

The boards, committees and structure set out above provide significant assurance and opportunities to audit, scrutinise and challenge H&F's operations.

5.0 Effectiveness of H&F's governance arrangements

The systems and processes that comprise H&F's governance arrangements have been evaluated for effectiveness for 2021/22 and are described in this section.

Covid-19 pandemic

H&F has put in place effective governance and control arrangements to deliver our response to, and recovery from, the Covid-19 pandemic over the last two years.

An internal technical assurance group provided robust, expert and real time advice in infection control, environmental health and health and safety, and harnessed this expertise to provide assurance through decision making. External organisations were also invited to bring their event planning and Covid-19 security proposals for scrutiny.

H&F continued to use its well-established emergency planning reporting structures – Gold, Silver and Bronze. Through rapid decision-making, delegation and matrix working, we continued to prioritise workforce safety and resilience. H&F also responded to accelerated hybrid working with the WoW (Ways of working) programme, which allowed the majority of staff to work remotely without compromising productivity.

Data and intelligence informed our planning and response, using Business Intelligence technology and insight to better understand impacts on residents and improve our support to residents. H&F commenced local contact tracing in September 2020 - one of the first councils in London to do so - and we were the first in North West London to establish testing centres for both Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) and lateral flow testing. We supported the NHSs vaccinations programme to rollout vaccinations - first, second and booster doses - to thousands of residents across the borough.

Our Covid-19 recovery and return to business as usual were realised in parallel with our Covid-19 outbreak response. We published our Local Outbreak Management Plan in case of a local outbreak requiring local lockdown enforcement, and continued the H&F economic recovery with our *shop local, shop safe* campaign to assertively encourage residents to support the local economy in its recovery following the most recent lockdown.

Residents of the borough have risen to the challenges of Covid-19 with great fortitude, sacrifice and civic pride. H&F continued to work closely with the voluntary and community sector, including with neighbourhood and community groups under the Community Aid Network, offering support, advice and guidance and engendering resilience across H&F's residents. During the pandemic, our values came to the fore by doing things with residents, not to them, creating a compassionate council, building shared prosperity and taking pride in H&F, informing and framing local actions.

Financial management

There continues to be robust arrangements for effective financial control through our accounting procedures, key financial systems, the Financial Regulations, and audit arrangements. These include established budget planning procedures, which are subject to risk assessment, and periodic budget monitoring reports to members. Our Treasury Management arrangements, whereby H&F invests and borrows funds to meet its operating requirements, follow professional practice and are subject to regular review and scrutiny by the Audit Committee. The Financial Regulations were reviewed during the year and approved by Full Council in April 2021. During the year, dedicated monthly Finance SLT meetings provided oversight of financial planning, management and reporting against our major programmes.

In order to meet a year-on-year reduction in grants from central government and the impact of Covid-19, our value of being ruthlessly financially efficient is helping to drive efficiency in our services, whilst maintaining our commitment to the most vulnerable and our value to be a compassionate council. This has looked at all areas of our work, considering different ways of delivering services and working more effectively. The Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) sets out a strategic approach to meeting the financial challenges.

External audit

The council's external auditors have statutory powers and responsibilities. They are required to review and report on H&F's financial statements, providing an opinion on the accounts, and use of resources, concluding on the arrangements in place for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in H&F's use of resources. This is commonly known as the value for money conclusion. Recommendations arising from these reviews are reported to the Audit Committee and implementation is monitored and reported on by external audit. During the year, the auditor concluded the audit of the 2019/20 financial statements having previously issued unqualified opinions for the authority and pension fund accounts, and Value for Money conclusion. The audit report for 2020/21 was presented to the Audit Committee in year with no significant issues identified. The audit opinion will be issued on completion of some minor outstanding items.

The Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has a standing brief to review the effectiveness of risk management arrangements, the internal control environment and associated anti-fraud and corruption arrangements. It does this through, amongst other things, overseeing the work of Internal Audit, the Corporate Anti-Fraud Service and External Audit and by reviewing our Corporate Risk Register. The last review of the effectiveness of the system of internal audit showed that the internal audit service is fully compliant with Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. The next external assessment is due to be undertaken in 2022/23.

Doings things with residents

H&F and its partners have comprehensive arrangements for identifying and prioritising residents' needs. Our annual budget and MTFS were robustly developed through a series of officer and councillor challenge events, including public scrutiny and review by the PACs.

Resident-led commissions have been central to our value to do things with residents, not to them. H&F has, in recent years, commissioned 17 resident-led commissions to put residents at the heart of policy development on a wide variety of topics, and many of their recommendations have been put into action.

2021/22 has seen the publication of two commissions. The final report of the resident-led Parks Commission was approved by Cabinet in December 2021. This followed a year of extensive research and engagement with residents and other park users and stakeholders. The commission's practical recommendations will enhance the vision, strategy and management of parks and open spaces across the borough in the years ahead, for example in protecting and improving biodiversity in line with H&F's climate and ecology strategy. Earlier in the year, the Arts Commission reported its work to members. The Commission arrived at a set of core principles and recommendations for priority actions to support the arts and culture, with a new Arts Strategy under development. An independent Teacher's Commission is also underway, to help shape the future of teaching in H&F.

Business and change planning and performance management

The 2018-22 Business Plan defined key outcomes and priorities for H&F in terms of sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits, with robust performance reporting to SLT and Cabinet members. The Business Plan has informed the production of department and service level plans. Key decisions consider alternative options for achieving the desired sustainable economic, social and environmental outcomes and the preferred option to meet the future needs of residents and the community within the funding available. Standard project, programme and service management practices inform the planning and delivery of activities.

The Council has established arrangements for the management of its objectives and optimising the achievement of intended outcomes. A corporate performance framework has been in place throughout 2021/22, with quarterly performance reports to SLT and Cabinet members. Beneath this there are departmental and service performance frameworks. These reports, plans and frameworks, together with associated management arrangements, enable the Council to review data on delivery progress against the agreed performance objectives and intended outcomes.

SLT and Cabinet members have continued to have close oversight of H&F's major change and transformation activities, supported through the work of a Corporate Programme Management Office (PMO). Monthly Finance SLT meetings agree business cases and assure delivery of a portfolio of major projects and programmes. The Development Board has oversight of major development and regeneration schemes that are delivering a significant pipeline of affordable housing. These arrangements are supported through regular monitoring of capital programmes and through project and programme level governance and management.

Children's Services

H&F has continued to build on the strong outcomes of the 2019 Ofsted inspection and the 2022 focused Ofsted visit across social care; seeking continuous development and improvement as reflected in our Self-Assessment which was discussed with Ofsted Her Majesty's Inspector's (HMI) leads, in January 2022. A focused visit is carried out by Ofsted between full inspections. Ofsted evaluates the effectiveness of the service, including the impact of leaders. Performance reports show high practice standards being sustained, including the timeliness of assessments and supervision, with further reporting developments demonstrating increased oversight from child protection Chairs and Independent Reviewing Officers. We have a continued programme of quality assurance with internal and external audits and thematic reviews to support the continuous improvement agenda.

Inspectors noted that exemplary practice was seen and that children in need of help and protection continue to receive highly effective 'front door' services that ensure they get the right support at the right time. In March 2022, Ofsted also visited the Haven; a specialist children's home for up to seven children with disabilities. The Haven is now graded as 'good', with inspectors noting that staff worked hard to ensure that 'children are supported to make good progress and be successful.'

We have renamed the Youth Offending Service (YOS) as the Youth Justice Service (YJS) to support our approach of child first, offender second. In January 2016, the service was rated as 'Good' by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation (HMIP). A new inspection framework has since been introduced on a 4-yearly cycle. This has been delayed due to the pandemic and H&F is yet to be inspected under this framework.

H&F continues to set and deliver high standards of practice in youth justice services and completed the YJS national standards self-assessment in April 2020. The self-assessment judgements and supporting evidence give a good indication of progress and good practice, including our strong partnership work and information sharing across services. It also highlighted some key areas needing focus which have been strengthened, such as consolidating quality assurance practice across our work, progress against which continues to be monitored.

Ninety-three percent of schools in the borough are rated 'good' or 'outstanding' as judged by Ofsted. The School Improvement team continues to support senior leaders with Ofsted preparation through the individual School Evaluation Card, ongoing discussions and by delivering training on key areas of focus.

H&F has made strong progress in implementing a SEND (special educational needs) transformation programme, including the launch and embedding of our new early intervention services, to support identifying and meeting needs earlier to reduce escalation to statutory processes. The Covid-19 backlog in relation to Education, Health and Care Needs Assessments has been addressed with performance back in line with national averages in quarterly three and four of 2021/22.

Performance has been monitored by the High Needs Block Board and reported into the Department for Education on a quarterly basis as part of the Safety Valve Agreement. The full 2021/22 Safety Valve Allocation has been received following satisfactory performance against the agreed programme and milestones.

In the context of the creation of the North West London Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and emergence of the local Integrated Care Partnership (ICP), H&F has established a new Children's Education, Health and Social Care Partnership Board bringing together strategic partners and stakeholders to ensure we have a cohesive approach to delivering services for children and young people across the borough.

The new sovereign Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP), established in April 2021, is embedded, and enabling improved collaborative working and a stronger focus on local issues. It oversees our responses to the learnings from recent Serious Case Reviews. This included the completion of a review of Social Emotional Mental Health, Autism, and Joint Accountability in the borough in response to the 'David' Serious Case Review which has now taken place between H&F and CCG. The findings have been developed into a report along with a series of recommendations, which have been taken to the ICP and an associated action plan has been developed. Actions from the review will be ongoing into 2022/23.

H&F has continued to develop a partnership approach to early intervention with health and voluntary and community partners. This approach is outlined in our Early Intervention Strategy which we will publish later in 2022. The Strategy will inform how we will reshape the way in which we plan, implement, and deliver services to improve support to children, young people and families at the earliest opportunity through effective and coordinated responses.

Following the pandemic and ongoing cost of living pressures, H&F is seeing increased need in the community and increased complexity in the issues faced by families presenting to social care services. We are working hard to manage the increased demand and additional pressures on services to ensure that vulnerable families continue to receive timely and effective intervention.

Adult social care and public health

In 2021/22 the Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspections of adult service providers recommenced. The in-house Reablement Service and Rivercourt respite services both continue to achieve an outstanding rating. Planning has commenced for a CQC inspection of Adult Social Care in 2023, which will include all stakeholders in the inspection. It is also likely to link to CQC inspections of partners in our borough-based partnership across Health and Social Care.

Adult Social Care and Public Health continue to respond strongly to the pandemic and have safeguarded our residents well. Strong governance was put in place throughout the pandemic which included daily monitoring calls with social care providers and rapid, active management of outbreaks of Coronavirus in care and nursing homes, in line with Public Health England guidance. Care homes remain subject to strict guidelines to help stop the spread of the virus. A specialist infection control advisor was recruited and started in January 2021, providing extensive training (including outbreak response training) across the whole council, schools, care settings in adults and children's services, housing and homelessness.

In Home Care, we have recruited quality assurance staff working alongside the providers and residents to improve standards and increase resident satisfaction. The department has also invested in maintaining close contact with adults and putting systems in place to measure the impact and the outcomes of advice and early intervention. Resources have been directed to reduce infection rates locally, through the infection control grant for care/nursing homes, funding for parking permits, and by extending the payment process for homecare providers. There has also been a focus on the vaccination of care workers.

H&F continued to embed co-production across services as part of ensuring resident involvement in policy development and decisions. This has involved working with residents on the new Emlyn Gardens supported housing development for people with learning disabilities, and with Dementia Action Alliance on co-producing our Dementia Strategy. Weekly performance reporting has maintained high standards of service delivery despite increased referral and hospital discharge numbers, whilst an electronic audit tool has been implemented to ensure good, relevant and responsive social care practice in all areas.

Housing

Through the 2021/22 budget process, emerging pressures on the financial sustainability of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) were identified. Pursuant to this, a review of the HRA 40-year Financial Business Plan was undertaken and the annual savings requirement (to the end of 2024/25) was increased from £4.0m to £5.7m in the 2021/22 budget. These pressures will continue to be monitored through the future MTFS and budget processes.

Workforce resilience

H&F's people strategy supports our vision to have the best workforce in local government, and to have a reputation as the best council to work for. The workforce is one of our greatest assets and 'Our People' is a strategy setting out a clear commitment to create an inclusive, confident, capable, and creative workforce to deliver our Vision. The Strategy invests in initiatives and practices which will attract, grow and retain talent and increase productivity.

New staff are supported through an induction programme, which is communicated via the Council's Intranet. Ongoing identification of development needs for staff, including senior officers, is provided through the performance appraisal framework and the Council has various programmes and training offers in place to meet those needs including People Management Essentials and the Get Ahead programme. Member induction and training is coordinated by Governance Services.

Since the start of the pandemic, H&F placed the health, safety and wellbeing of staff and residents at the forefront the Covid-19 Response and Recovery programmes. We acted to support workers either remaining at home or taking necessary precautions in the workplace, taking account of legal obligations, government and industry guidance for bringing staff back to work.

H&F has maintained a focus on workforce planning, workforce effectiveness and staff wellbeing and resilience, taking steps to protect staff whilst building in workplace flexibility. Through strategic and operational group meetings, senior managers were kept updated regarding local outbreaks and the evolving restrictions. Workforce resilience throughout the year remained strong and most of the workforce worked remotely.

H&F is now working to a new Workforce Transformation Strategy as part of Covid-19 Recovery to transition our workforce into new ways of working and in preparation for the re-opening of the Civic Campus.

H&F has worked closely with Trade Unions and has established regular forums to develop partnership working and a collaborative approach to resolving workforce matters resulting in a highly commended award during 2021.

Control systems and environment

H&F's Internal Audit service carries out a comprehensive programme of review activity consistent with the Audit Strategy and the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards. The work is based around the core risks faced by H&F and includes significant work on the main financial and information management systems, corporate programmes and partnerships.

Based upon the programme of work for 2021/22, the Director of Audit, Fraud, Risk and Insurance's opinion on H&F's control environment, governance arrangements and risk management arrangements are that they are satisfactory. Whilst some areas of improvement have been identified and reported to the Audit Committee, good progress has been made to implement recommendations in a timely manner, with no significant issues outstanding.

From 2021/22, the service moved to a '3 plus 9' annual audit plan – setting out the next three months of audit activity in detail, keeping the remaining nine months more flexible. Regular conversations, reviews of risk registers, and scanning the external risk environment has enabled audit work to keep pace with the organisation.

H&F has a zero-tolerance approach towards fraud and corruption and has established arrangements for managing the risk of fraud and conducting investigations into specific concerns. The Audit Committee receives regular updates on our anti-fraud and corruption arrangements, including how it is responding to emerging fraud risks.

Managing information

H&F has continued to meet the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018 at each stage of the Covid-19 pandemic response. Formal assessments of data privacy and security risk have been completed on staff vaccination data collections, to offer vaccinations to priority groups and to support decisions relating to a safe return to office buildings, through the collection of anonymised data.

H&F's updated GDPR training programme is mandatory for all staff to ensure they are fully aware of legal responsibilities when handling personal data. Training is extended to Councillors to support their handling of personal data held by both the Council and its residents. All employees and Councillors sign an updated Personal Commitment Statement outlining our expectations when using corporate devices or connecting to the corporate network.

H&F's Information Asset Register was updated in 2021 to provide greater transparency of information processes and satisfy the requirement for a Record of Processing Activity under the UK GDPR. In early 2022, a software solution to

manage the information assets was procured which will provide greater oversight of the information held, further increasing the council's resilience to cyber security threats through enhanced risks assessments, data mapping and incident response. H&F has bolstered its capacity to identify and manage cyber incidents through the recruitment of additional resource in line with the approved Target Operating Model. We have implemented a Security Information and Event Management (SIEM) system, providing enhanced analytics to improve threat visibility and response.

Information governance policies and standards are in place which provide assurance about the security of our information assets and data handling procedures. Information Management requirements are considered as part of H&F's Key Decisions. The Senior Information Risk Owner is ultimately accountable for the assurance of information security at H&F. The Head of Information and Data Protection Officer monitors internal compliance and advises on data protection obligations as required under Article 39 of the GDPR. Caldicott Guardians are responsible for ensuring that health and social care information is managed appropriately, and that our annual Data Security and Protection Toolkit submission meets the required levels of compliance.

Director and functional assurance

Directors have completed statements detailing their confidence in arrangements for managing their recognised core risk areas, which have been subject to independent review. This reflects the directors' responsibilities for both the management of risk and the effectiveness of controls. The statements received in this regard indicated that overall the management systems were viewed as effective or very effective.

The Head of Paid Service is the Chief Executive. They have overall corporate management and operational responsibility for the Council. They are supported in this responsibility through the operation and business of SLT, which meets weekly. They also provide professional advice to members in the decision-making process in line with the Constitution. The Head of Paid Service and Monitoring Officer have ensured in 2021/22 that records of the Council's decisions are kept and published. The Head of Paid Service has had an active role in this year representing the Council interests on various local, sub-regional and regional partnerships and external bodies. The Head of Paid Service oversees the Chief Executive's Office, which provides day to day support for the effective discharge of their function.

The Director of Finance is responsible for the proper administration of H&F's financial affairs, as required by Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, and H&F's financial management arrangements are compliant with the governance requirements set out in the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's 'Statement on the Role of the Chief Financial Officer in Local Government' (2016).

H&F is required to appoint a Monitoring Officer who monitors and reviews the operation of the Constitution and ensures the aims and principles of the Constitution are achieved. The Monitoring Officer advises on compliance with the Constitution and ensures that decision making is lawful and advises whether decisions of the Executive are within the agreed budget and policy framework.

The Monitoring Officer is a member of SLT. They maintained the Constitution in this year, which was agreed at Full Council and oversaw the receiving and registering of Members' interests. The Monitoring Officer was supported in the discharge of their responsibilities through the work and responsibilities of H&F's Legal Services and Democratic Services. Legal Services provide legal implications on all Executive decisions. The Monitoring Officer and Legal Services are regularly consulted for advice as part of the Council's day to day business and are represented on key governance groups. Legal Services has advised on all H&F's legal matters during the year unless the Assistant Director for Legal Services has commissioned external legal advice.

The Monitoring Officer has a legal responsibility to consider matters of potential unlawfulness and has confirmed that there has not been the need to make a report concerning any proposal, decision or omission that would give rise to unlawfulness or maladministration. The Monitoring Officer is satisfied that the arrangements in place are working effectively, decisions have been made in accordance with the budget and policy framework and that no matters of significance have been omitted from this Statement.

Progress against significant issues identified in the 2020/21 AGS

In each AGS, significant issues are identified for particular focus in the forthcoming year because of the governance risks associated with them. The following table summarises progress against those issues identified in the 2020/21 AGS. Overall, this shows good progress in addressing issues, with mitigation actions in place.

Table 1: Progress in 2021/22 against significant issues

<p>Response to Covid-19 pandemic Continuing close management and control of infection</p>
<p>As described in section four, H&F has put in place effective governance and control arrangements to deliver our response to, and recovery from, the Covid-19 pandemic over the last two years.</p> <p>Over 2021/22, data collection and analysis continued to inform a targeted approach to vaccination pop-up sites. Monitoring of outbreaks was completed by the Senior Infection Prevention Control Nurse, alongside commissioners. Vaccinations continued to be offered through pharmacist's and pop-up clinics around the borough. As at March 2022, 85% of eligible residents had received two doses of the vaccine, with some now having received the third booster dose.</p> <p>Recovery planning has been rolled out across the H&F and, where possible, with NHS partners to reduce delayed discharges and reduce the waiting lists for treatment which have built up over the pandemic. During the year, the final rounds of Covid-19 grant funding was allocated to social care providers and distributed amongst local businesses, as appropriate.</p> <p>H&F has continued to prioritise workforce safety and resilience with staff provided Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and increased levels of staff engagement and support. H&F also responded to accelerated hybrid working with the WoW (Ways of working) programme.</p>
<p>Hammersmith Bridge Working towards securing a fair, affordable funding solution to enable the re-opening and refurbishment of this important national heritage infrastructure asset</p>
<p>Following a comprehensive structural integrity assessment, Hammersmith Bridge was closed to traffic in April 2019. On 13 August 2020, the bridge was closed to pedestrians, cyclists and river traffic for safety reasons. On 17 July 2021, the Leader of the council re-opened the bridge to pedestrians, cyclists and river traffic, following a series of comprehensive safety investigations and the successful introduction of an innovative temperature control system.</p> <p>On 6 December 2021, Cabinet approved the stabilisation works which are estimated to cost £8.9m. The stabilisation works are currently in progress and are expected to be completed by the end of 2022. The Stabilisation Works Project Board meets weekly to monitor progress and provide the necessary governance and assurance. Following submission of an Outline Business Case for Stabilisation Works, both DfT and TfL have confirmed their third of the funding for the stabilisation works. In 2022/23, we hope to submit the Outline Business Case – Stage 2 for Strengthening and Restoration Works.</p> <p>On 7 March 2022, Cabinet approved £3.5m to fund further essential and development works to progress the full Strengthening and Restoration Works. This will also enable the Outline Business Case for Strengthening and Restoration to be developed further.</p>
<p>Funding for Schools Funding for pupils with high needs is provided through Dedicated Schools Grant from government</p>
<p>The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) is the main source of income for schools. In common with other London Boroughs, the High Needs Block element¹ of the DSG has come under increased pressure in supporting children with special educational needs and spend has been significantly higher than the funding provided by central government. This has led to a significant cumulative deficit on the grant.</p> <p>During 2020/21, H&F entered into a £20m Safety Valve Agreement with the Department for Education (DfE) to bring in year expenditure within the annual grant allocation and to eliminate H&F's historic deficit over a 5-year period.</p> <p>As at the end of 2021/22, H&F has received £10m in line with the agreed payment profile, to support eliminating the cumulative deficit, following sufficient progress of the High Needs Block programme that is overseeing improvements and transformation of services to children with special educational needs.</p>

¹ The High Needs Block element funds places for pupils in special schools, resource units and alternative provision. It also provides top up funding for pupils and young people up to the age of 25 with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) in all education settings. EHCPs are developed for pupils and young people who require additional support that goes beyond what a school, college, or nursery can typically deliver from their own budgets or staffing.

Securing assurance for residents on the quality and value for money of housing repairs

The new contract delivery arrangements for the long-term housing repairs service for residents of council homes commenced in August 2020 and now is in its second year.

The repairs contracts are split into three geographical Lots. In November 2021, the contractor for Lot 2, United Living, exited following mutual agreement and were replaced by the reserve contractor Morgan Sindall. The performance of all three Lots are improving but below targets for Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in some areas. A dedicated weekly Task Force chaired by the Chief Housing Officer has been established (March 2022) to deliver a wide-ranging action plan to support full recovery of the service across a number of themes including: acceleration of planned maintenance works, delivering contractors' improvement plans, improving communication with residents, and clearing the works backlog. Progress is tracked through weekly pulse check reporting and delivery of clearly defined outcomes and targets. Additional resource has been agreed (May 2022) for both business as usual repairs and separate dedicated teams for legal disrepair cases.

Further oversight is currently being provided in the form of weekly SLT reports and fortnightly reports to the Cabinet Member for Housing and Homelessness.

The following table identifies the significant issues for improvement for the coming financial year, which are already subject to tight governance and control.

Table 2: Significant issues for 2022/23

Response to Covid-19 pandemic Continuing close management and control of infection

H&F will continue to put in place effective governance and control arrangements to ensure it can react to the changing Covid-19 related context, in terms to infections rates and effectiveness of our vaccination programme. This will include continuing to make use of well-established emergency planning and reporting structures. We will continue to review how hybrid and remote working can be deployed as a means of driving up productivity, whilst also minimising any public health risks that may re-emerge linked to Covid-19. Our Local Outbreak Management Plan will remain relevant, and we will continue to support local businesses in tackling the economic impacts of the pandemic.

H&F will continue to work closely with the voluntary and community sector, including with neighbourhood and community groups under the Community Aid Network, offering support, advice and guidance. We will continue to provide vulnerable residents with specialist infection protections support. We will also maintain our data monitoring in case of a need to step up services in an emergency response.

There remains a threat through other infections, such as Novo-virus, Flu variants and Monkeypox, on which we need to ensure good communications and engagement with both H&F workforce and residents. We will continue to work closely with and build the trust of black and ethnic minority communities, to encourage take-up of vaccinations and support individuals to self-care.

Hammersmith Bridge Working towards securing a fair, affordable funding solution to enable the re-opening and refurbishment of this important national heritage infrastructure asset

H&F will continue to work towards securing a fair, affordable funding solution to enable the full re-opening and refurbishment of this national treasure and international engineering asset. In 2022/23, we hope to submit the Outline Business Case – Stage 2 for full Strengthening and Restoration Works.

Hammersmith Bridge Programme Board (council officers and key external advisors) will continue to meet regularly, and review and provide the necessary governance arrangements for this major project as well as seeking to secure a fair, affordable funding solution.

The Continued Case for Safe Operation (CCSO) Board is made up of leading engineers and safety experts and acts as the technical approval authority. It will continue to meet regularly to assess all safety related matters and the stability of the bridge. The CCSO will also be responsible for making recommendations to H&F on the protocols and management controls for the Continued Case for Safe Operation. This provides the necessary engineering/ technical assurances with regards to the safety of the bridge.

H&F will continue to work with the Department for Transport on taking the bridge work forward, but we will remain clear that a contribution from the council will need to be funded through a toll/ road charging to ensure that an unfair burden is not placed on our residents and is instead funded by those who use the bridge.

Securing assurance for residents on the quality and value for money of housing repairs

Several supporting specialist contractors have been engaged to undertake planned preventative maintenance to drainage and infrastructure across the housing portfolio. Works are initially targeted on White City, West Kensington, Edward Woods and Clem Atlee estates.

The rise of disrepair claims from 'no win, no fee' solicitors door knocking and promoting their services remains a high risk. Currently, around 30 new cases are received a month which incur significant legal costs. A dedicated team is in place, with additional resourcing both internally and with contractors to address this.

A stock condition survey of every property over a 2-year programme commenced in Summer 2021. Over £600 million has been agreed to invest in the existing stock over the next 12 years as part of the capital strategy led by the Asset Management Team. The feedback and recommendations emerging from a recent independent audit will inform the direction of travel and approach to monitoring.

The cost of repairs is a significant pressure impacting the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). There are risks of further increases in the cost and availability of materials and labour affecting the construction industry as a result of inflationary and supply chain pressures in the wider economy. This will need to be managed carefully to ensure the future financial sustainability of the HRA.

Securing assurance on delivery of the Civic Campus Programme

The Civic Campus programme is overseeing the renovation and extension of the former Town Hall and delivery of genuinely affordable homes, a new cinema, commercial offices and new public spaces. The scheme includes start-up space for local entrepreneurs, homework space for local schoolchildren, and community art and event spaces. The regenerated Town Hall will be our main hub for hybrid working once re-opened and will regenerate the western end of King Street.

Robust governance is in place for the programme and is delivered in accordance with H&F's Programme Management Office standards. Clear governance arrangements are also in place for the Joint Venture company - between H&F and A2Dominion - that is delivering the works.

Housing Fire Safety

The Housing Compliance and Asset Management Strategy and Fire Safety Management System set out our strategy as a landlord to maintain and enhance fire safety across our 17,000 council homes. This is also supported by internal audit reviews and independent verification of completed improvements to fire safety.

Type 1 Fire Risk Assessments (FRAs) are in place for all communal areas of council properties, with those for properties six storeys and above published on our website, with others available upon request. All 68 High-Rise Residential Buildings, six storeys and above, have Premise Information Boxes (for the London Fire Brigade). Each property also has an individual fire safety strategy.

All actions emanating from the FRAs are logged on a property compliance system and addressed through specific programmes, capital works by contractors or by a team of H&F staff, called the H&F Direct Labour Organisation (DLO). Over 13,000 actions have been completed, with further planned actions via commissioned works outlined below. Higher priority actions, P1s, are monitored weekly, with interim mitigation measures in place as required.

Commissioned programmes of works currently include:

- The installation of 4,000+ fire doors.
- The removal of vertical photovoltaic arrays and upgrade of rainscreen cladding at Edward Woods (three tower blocks).
- The removal of window infill panels at Charecroft (four tower blocks).
- The removal of small combustible infill panels to the external façade of 20 towers.
- The upgrading of emergency lighting, the installation of sprinklers (at 5 towers initially) and upgrade of hardwiring, consumer units and fire detection to tenanted properties as necessary.

Funding for Schools

Funding for pupils with high needs is provided through Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) from government

The High Needs Block element will continue to be under pressure in supporting children with special educational needs as spend is significantly higher than the funding provided by central government, and there are further uncertainties around the future legislative changes.

The High Needs Block programme seeks to reduce the underlying overspend in this area. A programme of work is underway to reduce the overspend which will be overseen by H&F's High Needs Block Board and reported into the Department for Education on a quarterly basis as part of the Safety Valve Agreement. The full 2021/22 Safety Valve Allocation has been received following satisfactory performance against the agreed programme and milestones.

6.0 Review conclusion

H&F is satisfied that the governance arrangements continue to be regarded as fit for purpose. A satisfactory level of assurance has been achieved following the conclusion of the review. Corporate governance arrangements have operated effectively in supporting H&F in meeting its challenges and responsibilities, not least the response to the Covid-19 pandemic. These will continue to be monitored to ensure that they remain effective throughout 2022/23 and into the future.

Signed:



Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Cowan

Signed:



Chief Executive, Sharon Lea

Date: 22nd February 2024

On behalf of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

Appendix A – Hammersmith & Fulham’s Governance Framework

Our Constitution

The H&F Constitution sets out the functions of key governance officers, including the statutory posts of ‘Head of Paid Service’ (fulfilled by the Chief Executive), ‘Monitoring Officer’, ‘Director of Children’s Services’ (DCS) (Director of Children’s Services), ‘Director of Adult Social Services’ (DASS) (Strategic Director of Social Care) and ‘Section 151 Officer’ (Director of Finance) and explains the role of these officers for ensuring that processes are in place for enabling H&F to meet its statutory obligations and also for providing advice to Members, officers and committees on staff management, financial, legal and ethical governance issues.

Local Code of Corporate Governance

H&F has in place a Local Code of Corporate Governance. The Code identifies the principles of good governance and transparency to which H&F subscribes and identifies the structures, systems and processes that it has established to ensure that good governance in practice is achieved. This can be found within the H&F Constitution.

Policy and Accountability Committees (PACs)

In 2021/22, the overview and scrutiny function was provided through six PACs. The PACs, listed below, are broadly aligned to Cabinet Portfolios:

- Children and Education Policy and Accountability Committee
- Community Safety and Environment Policy and Accountability Committee
- The Economy, Housing and the Arts Policy and Accountability Committee
- Finance, Commercial Revenue and Contracts Policy and Accountability Committee
- Health, Inclusion and Social Care Policy and Accountability Committee
- Public Services Reform Policy and Accountability Committee.

Committees continued to have cross cutting remits designed to reflect H&F’s key priorities and objectives. They each comprised five elected non-executive Members. Committees were also able to co-opt members who had a particular expertise or direct knowledge of the service user perspective to assist with their work. Co-optees were usually non-voting although the parent governor and diocesan representatives on the Children and Education PAC are entitled to vote on education matters.

Each Committee received the list of Key Decisions (a rolling list of Key Decisions which the Cabinet planned to take in the coming months), which assists in the development of work programmes and the identification of forthcoming key executive decisions deserving closer scrutiny and input.

PACs also have a wider role in policy development, originating topics of interest. They feedback their views to the Cabinet and individual Cabinet Members, officers, external partners and service providers. A large number of non-executive Members participate in scrutinising Cabinet business, external organisations such as the NHS, the Police and other statutory bodies.

Managing risk

All Members and managers are responsible for ensuring that risk implications are considered in the decisions they take. This is especially important as H&F reshapes its services to meet its financial challenges. Members and senior management identify the principal risks to H&F achieving its objectives. These, together with the significant risks to planning and delivering services are recorded in a corporate risk register, which also record the controls necessary to manage the risks.

Specific assurance is sought concerning those risks associated with the key elements of the governance framework and that any necessary improvements to controls have been implemented. The governance framework cannot eliminate all risk of failure to meet the targets in our policies, aims and objectives and can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

Audit and external inspection assurances

In accordance with statutory requirements, the annual external audit includes examining and certifying whether the financial statements are ‘true and fair’, and assessing our arrangements for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness in the use of resources.

The Internal Audit service is a key means of assurance. It is responsible for reviewing the adequacy of the controls throughout all areas of the council and is managed and delivered in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards (PSIAS). The Audit Committee receive update reports at each of their meetings, along with the Head of Internal Audit’s Annual Opinion.

The Audit Committee approve the Internal Audit Charter, which sets out the Internal Audit role and its responsibilities and clarifies its independence, and the planned audit coverage.

Council services are also subject to statutory external inspections, through various regulatory bodies including Ofsted and Care Quality Commission (CQC)².

SLT and management assurance

The SLT is chaired by the Chief Executive and includes six directors. It is responsible for the forward-looking approach to delivering services and H&F's transformation programmes - ensuring we are best placed to meet the future needs of residents and the community within the funding available. This involves working in new ways with public and voluntary sectors and ensuring services innovate to meet the continuing needs of residents and the demands of new legislation. A Statutory Accountabilities Board, chaired by the Chief Executive, meets to ensure there are appropriate and coordinated governance arrangements in place for the effective delivery of our statutory functions.

Commissioning and procurement of goods and services

H&F recognises the value of considering different service delivery options in delivering our objectives. The effective commissioning and procurement of goods, works and services is, therefore, of strategic importance to our operations, while robust contract management helps to provide value for money and ensure that outcomes and outputs are delivered.

Operational procedures for tendering, the use of H&F's e-tendering system, contract letting, contract management and the use of consultants are included in the Contract Standing Orders which form part of H&F's Constitution.

Pillars of governance framework

The three pillars of H&F's governance framework are set out in the table overleaf

Table 3: Pillars of H&Fs governance framework in 2021/22

Corporate Governance	Management Team	Services are delivered economically, efficiently & effectively
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Constitution (including statutory officers, scheme of delegation, financial management and contract standing orders) • Audit Committee • Standards Committee • Pension Fund Committee • Internal Audit and External Audit • Independent external sources (e.g. inspections) • Council, Cabinet and Policy and Accountability Committees • Medium Term Financial Strategy • Complaints system • People and Talent (HR) policies and procedures • Whistleblowing and other countering fraud arrangements • Risk management framework • Performance management frameworks • Codes of conduct 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of Chief Officers • Delivery of H&F's aims and objectives • Corporate planning • Delivery, Financial, Service Improvement and Commissioning Plans • Officer codes of conduct • Performance appraisal • The role of the Chief Financial Officer • The role of the Head of Internal Audit • Roles and responsibilities of Members and Officers • Timely production of the Statement of Accounts • Completion of External and Internal reports recommendations • SLT review of Corporate Governance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of risk • Effectiveness of internal controls • Democratic engagement and public accountability • Budget and financial management arrangements • Standards of conduct and behaviour • Compliance with laws and regulations, internal policies and procedures • Action plans dealing with significant issues are approved, actioned and reported on • Local Government Ombudsman reports • Electoral Commission reports • Policy and accountability reviews • Effectiveness reviews of Audit Committee, Policy and Accountability Committees and Internal Audit • Employee performance • Compliance with procurement regulations • Stakeholder engagement • Evaluation of benefits gained from investments and projects

² CQC are the independent regulator of health and ACS in England.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

ACCOUNTING PERIOD

The timescale during which accounts are prepared. Local authority accounts have an overall accounting period of one year from 1st April to 31st March.

ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Those principles, bases, conventions, rules and practices applied by an entity that specify how the effects of transactions and other events are to be reflected in its financial statements. Accounting policies define the process whereby transactions and other events are reflected in financial statements.

ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

A set of rules explaining how accounts are to be kept. By law, local authorities must follow 'proper accounting practices', which are set out in Acts of Parliament and in professional codes and statements of recommended practice.

ACCRUALS BASIS

Accounting for income and expenditure during the financial year in which they are earned or incurred, not when money is received or paid.

ACQUISITIONS

The Council spends funds from the capital programme to buy assets such as land and buildings.

ACTUARIAL VALUATION

The Actuary reviews the assets and liabilities of the Pension Fund and reports to the Council on the fund's financial position and recommended employers' contribution rates every three years.

AGENCY SERVICES

Services provided by or for another local authority or public body where the cost of carrying out the service is reimbursed.

AMORTISATION

The equivalent of depreciation for intangible assets.

APPROPRIATION

The transfer of ownership of an asset, from one Service Area to another at an agreed (usually market or outstanding debt) value.

ASSET REGISTER

A record of Council assets including land and buildings, housing, infrastructure, vehicles, equipment etc. This is maintained for the purpose of calculating capital charges that are made to service revenue accounts. It is updated annually to reflect new acquisitions, disposals, revaluations and depreciation.

BALANCES

The amount of money left over at the end of the financial year after allowing for all expenditure and income that has taken place. These are also known as financial reserves. They comprise the General Fund balance, the Collection Fund balance, the Housing Revenue Account balance and the Education Establishment Account balance.

BUDGET

A forecast of the Council's planned expenditure and income, either over a set period or for a specific project.

CAPITAL ADJUSTMENT ACCOUNT

See Note 3c of the Statement of Accounts.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Expenditure on the acquisition or creation of Council assets such as houses, offices, schools and roads or expenditure that adds to and does not merely maintain the value of an existing asset.

CAPITAL FINANCING

Capital financing is the process which occurs after capital expenditure has been incurred. There are a number of different sources of capital funding such as government capital / revenue grants, non-government grants, contributions from private developers, capital receipts and unsupported borrowing. Various funding sources are applied to capital spend to ensure that a project is fully financed from approved finance sources.

CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIREMENT (CFR)

The authority's total liabilities in respect of capital expenditure financed by credit less the provision made to meet these liabilities.

CAPITALISATION

Costs are capitalised to the extent that they create or improve any fixed asset with a useful economic life greater than one year.

CAPITAL RECEIPTS

Proceeds from the sale of capital assets (e.g. land, buildings and equipment). These receipts are used to pay for additional capital expenditure.

CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC FINANCE AND ACCOUNTANCY (CIPFA)

The professional accountancy body for public services which recommends accounting practice for the preparation of local authority accounts.

COLLECTION FUND

The Collection Fund is a separate account kept by every billing authority into which Council Tax and Business rates are paid.

COMMUNITY ASSETS

Assets that the local authority intends to hold in perpetuity, that have no determinable useful life, and that may have restrictions on their disposal. Examples of community assets are parks and historic buildings.

CONTINGENT ASSET

A potential asset that is uncertain because it depends on the outcome of a future event.

CONTINGENT LIABILITY

A potential liability that is uncertain because it depends on the outcome of a future event.

CREDITOR

An individual or body to which the Council owes money at the balance sheet date.

CURRENT SERVICE COST

The increase in the present value of pension liabilities expected to arise from employee service in the current period.

DEBTOR

An individual or body that owes money to the Council at the balance sheet date.

DEFERRED CREDITS

This is the term applied to deferred capital receipts and represents capital income still to be received. These transactions arise when fixed assets are sold and the amounts owed by the purchasers are repaid over a number of years. The balance is reduced by the amount repayable in any financial year.

DEFERRED LIABILITIES

An amount owed by the Council that will be repaid over a significant period of time. An example of this is outstanding finance lease obligations.

DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION SCHEME

A pension scheme in which a pensioner's benefits are specified, usually relating to their length of service and either final salary or average earnings.

DEPRECIATION

The measure of the wearing out, consumption, or other reduction in the useful economic life of a fixed asset.

EARMARKED RESERVE

See Note 4 of the Statement of Accounts.

EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

Events after the Balance Sheet date are those events, favourable or unfavourable, that occur between the Balance Sheet date and the date when the Statement of Accounts is authorised for issue. Events arising after the Balance Sheet date should be reflected in the Statement of Accounts if they provide additional evidence of conditions that existed at the balance sheet date and materially affect the amounts to be included.

FAIR VALUE

The amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arms-length transaction.

FINANCE LEASE

Under this type of lease, the risks and rewards of ownership of the leased goods transfer to the lessee.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another.

FIXED ASSET

An asset that yields benefits to the Council and the services it provides for a period of more than a year.

GENERAL FUND

The council's main revenue account that covers the net cost of all services other than the provision of council housing for rent.

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Assistance by government and inter-government agencies and similar bodies, whether local, national or international, in the form of cash or transfers of assets to an authority in return for past or future compliance with certain conditions relating to the activities of the authority.

GROSS EXPENDITURE

The total cost of providing the Council's services before deducting income from government grants, fees and charges etc.

HISTORICAL COST

The amount originally paid for a fixed asset.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

A statutory account that contains all expenditure and income on the provision of Council housing for rent. The HRA must be kept entirely separate from the General Fund and the account must balance. Local authorities are not allowed to make up any deficit on the HRA from the General Fund.

IAS19

This International Accounting Standard is based on the principle that an organisation should account for retirement benefits when it is committed to give them, even if the actual giving will be many years into the future.

IMPAIRMENT LOSS

A loss arising from an event that significantly reduces an asset's value. An example is physical damage or a fall in market value.

INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

Fixed assets that cannot be taken away or transferred, and whose benefits can only be obtained by continued use of the asset created. Examples of infrastructure assets are highways and footpaths.

INTANGIBLE ASSET

Fixed assets that do not have physical substance but are identified and controlled by the Council and bring benefits to the Council for more than one year. Typical examples include software licences, internally developed software and websites developed to deliver services rather than information about services.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (IFRS)

The Accounting standards adopted by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB). Local Authorities have been required to produce full accounts using IFRS from 1st April 2010.

INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

Interest in land and/or buildings in respect of which construction work and development have been completed and which is held for its investment potential, with any rental income being negotiated at arm's length.

LEVIES

Payments to London-wide bodies such as the London Pension Fund Authority. The cost of these bodies is borne by local authorities in the area concerned, based on their Council Tax base and is met from the General Fund.

MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP)

The minimum amount that the Council must charge to the CIES each year and set aside as a provision for the repayment of external loans and meeting other credit liabilities.

NON-DOMESTIC RATES (NDR)

The rates paid by businesses. The amount paid is based on the rateable value set by the Valuation Office multiplied by a rate in the £ set by the government which is the same throughout the country. The rates are collected by local authorities and shared between central and local government. The rates collected within Hammersmith and Fulham are shared as follows: Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (33%), The London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham (30%) and the Greater London Authority (37%).

NET BOOK VALUE

The value of an asset as recorded in the accounts. This usually equates to the net current replacement or original cost less any depreciation charged against the asset over its life to date.

NET REALISABLE VALUE

The open market value of the asset less the expenses to be incurred in realising the asset.

OPERATIONAL ASSETS

A fixed asset held and occupied, used or consumed by the Council in the direct delivery of services.

OUTTURN

Actual income and expenditure in a financial year.

PAST SERVICE COST

For a defined benefit scheme, the increase in the present value of the scheme liabilities related to employee service in prior periods arising in the current period as a result of the introduction of, or improvements to, retirement benefits.

PRIVATE FINANCE INITIATIVE (PFI)

Contracts typically involving a private sector entity (the operator) constructing or enhancing property used in the provision of a public service, and operating and maintaining that property for a specified period of time. The operator is paid for its services over the period of the arrangement.

POOLING ARRANGEMENTS (CAPITAL RECEIPTS)

Since 1st April 2004, 75% of 'Right to Buy' capital receipts have to be paid to the MHCLG; the remaining element can be used to finance capital expenditure. A proportion of other housing receipts must also be paid over unless it is intended to use the receipts for affordable housing or regeneration projects. Changes introduced in 2013 mean an authority can retain an RTB receipt in its entirety when it can be demonstrated that it will be reinvested in a replacement home (known as the 1-4-1 scheme).

PRECEPT

A precept is a charge raised by another Authority to meet its net expenditure. The precepting Authority for this Council is the Greater London Authority (GLA). The GLA calculates its total spending needs for the year and sets its own council tax in the same way as a London Borough. Each Billing authority then collects the tax for them.

PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS

Those material adjustments applicable to prior years arising from changes in accounting policies or from the correction of fundamental errors.

PROVISIONS

A provision is an amount set aside in the accounts for liabilities anticipated in the future which cannot always be accurately quantified. IAS37 defines a provision as a present obligation as the result of a past event; where it is probable that the transfer of economic benefit will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made of that obligation.

PUBLIC SECTOR AUDIT APPOINTMENTS LTD (PSAA)

The PSAA is responsible for the appointment of local government external auditors and will continue in this role for the 2021/22 audit of accounts.

PUBLIC WORKS LOAN BOARD (PWLB)

A central government agency which provides long and medium-term loans to local authorities at interest rates only slightly higher than those at which the Government itself can borrow. Local authorities are able to borrow a proportion of their requirements to finance capital spending from this source.

RELATED PARTIES

Related Parties are those individuals and entities that the Council either has the ability to influence, or to be influenced by. Related parties include the Government, subsidiary and associated companies, the Pension Fund, Councillors and senior officers.

RESERVES

See Note 4 of the Statement of Accounts.

REVENUE CONTRIBUTIONS TO CAPITAL OUTLAY (RCCO)

The use of revenue monies to pay for capital expenditure – also known as Direct Revenue Financing (DRF).

REVENUE EXPENDITURE

Expenditure on day to day items such as salaries, wages and running costs. These items are paid for from service income, Revenue Support Grant, NNDR and Council Tax. Under the Local Government Finance Act all expenditure is deemed to be revenue unless it is specifically classified as capital.

REVENUE EXPENDITURE FUNDED FROM CAPITAL UNDER STATUTE (REFCUS)

Expenditure that is classified as capital expenditure under statutory provisions, but does not result in the creation or enhancement of fixed assets owned by the Council. Such expenditure incurred during the year is treated as revenue expenditure and charged to the relevant service in the CIES.

REVENUE SUPPORT GRANT (RSG)

The main grant payable to support local authorities' revenue expenditure. A local authority's RSG entitlement is intended to make up the difference between expenditure and income from the NNDR pool and Council Tax. The Revenue Support Grant is distributed as part of the Formula Grant.

RIGHT TO BUY

The council is legally required to sell council homes to tenants, at a discount, where the tenant wishes to buy their home. The money received from the sale is a capital receipt of which only 25% can be spent on capital expenditure. The remaining 75% must be paid over to the DLUHC under pooling arrangements.

STOCKS

The amount of unused or unconsumed stocks held in expectation of future use.

SUPPORTED CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

This is capital expenditure funded by government, either as a one-off capital grant or as part of the annual RSG settlement to cover the financing costs of monies borrowed.

TRANSFER PAYMENTS

A payment to a person or organisation that does not result in a reciprocal benefit or service being provided to the council. The main examples are housing and council tax benefit. In most cases the cost of transfer payments is either fully or partially reimbursed by Central Government.

USEFUL LIFE

The period over which the Council will benefit from the use of a fixed asset.

WRITE-OFFS

Elimination of an asset or liability over a defined period, usually by means of charging or crediting the CIES.